Scientist

POSITION SUMMARY:

Responsible for development of assays, reagents, instrumentation and processes to advance the progress of research initiatives. Independently planning and executing experiments, analyzing and documenting resulting data and presenting findings in a clear and concise manner will be among the principle responsibilities of this position. This position may directly supervise the work of others in their group and/or across interdisciplinary teams.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Project planning and associated documentation
- Conduct experiments, analyze and critically review resulting data
- Troubleshoot and optimize experiments; communicate challenges and solutions to managers and senior staff
- Prototype instrumentation and software design, development and associated documentation
- Research new methods and train laboratory personnel
- Assist in grant/contract proposal submissions
- May work with Biosafety Level 2 (BSL-2) materials such as viruses, bacteria and/or human clinical matrices (e.g. serum and plasma)
- May manage and coordinate the activities of Research Associates other
- Suggest direction for future work

EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS:

- PhD degree in structural biology, biochemistry, molecular biology, enzymology, bioengineering or related field of study
- Experience in a wide-variety of molecular biology methods for nucleic acid analysis and manipulation including DNA and RNA purification, amplification, labeling and hybridization
- Solid understanding of DNA and RNA enzymology including polymerases, nucleases and modification enzymes.
- Expertise in a wide variety of enzymatic assays employing fluorescence, UV-Vis spectroscopy, electrophoretic and chromatographic methods, and other techniques
- Experience in analytical methods and detailed quantitative analysis for characterization of nucleic acids

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Strong scientific fundamentals and analytical background
- Demonstrated ability to generate creative solutions to challenging problems
- Demonstrated ability to independently design and execute project planning, organization, troubleshooting, optimization and validation of experiments
- Programming proficiency is strongly favored
- A wide degree of creativity and latitude is expected including the ability to multi-task in an environment with changing priorities
PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

- Up to 70% of the day may be spent in the lab
- There are aspects of the positions duties that require a person in this role to work at heights above four (4) feet on occasion and lift up to 25 lbs.

WORK ENVIRONMENT:

- Laboratory environment working with chemical reagents and performing some Biosafety Level 2 (BSL-2) work
  - May involve handling of BSL-2 materials and organisms including human blood and/or blood products on occasion

If interested in this position, or other positions at MSD, please email your resume to Pete Nasou at pnasou@mesoscale.com. If you’d like to speak with Pete directly, you can contact him at 240-314-2678.

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