Postdoc position in African bat disease ecology

The lab of Dr Kristian Forbes at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville is searching for a 2-year postdoctoral researcher to work on the disease ecology of bats in east Africa. The successful applicant will join an international team combining theoretical and empirical approaches to address diverse aspects of host-virus relationships. Particular emphasis has been on the ecology of Bombali ebolavirus and coronaviruses, though other virus groups could also be investigated.

The position will provide flexibility for the postdoc to explore their interests within this context, and they will be expected to design and lead studies, prepare manuscripts for publication, and contribute to relevant grant applications. They will also contribute to training and mentorship of graduate students and field assistants. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the successful applicant is likely to be able to initially work remotely. Several options are available under this scenario, particularly the development of theoretical models as part of a collaboration with Dr Olivier Restif at the University of Cambridge, UK. Once safe, the postdoc will have opportunities for international travel, including to the University of Cambridge and to conduct field research in Kenya and Rwanda.

This position requires a PhD in biological sciences, mathematics, or a related field. Highly regarded past experience includes one or more of the following: mathematical or statistical modelling, monitoring and sampling wildlife (especially bats), and conducting laboratory diagnostic assays to identify infections. This position is particularly appropriate for someone with an interdisciplinary skill set, or diverse interests and a desire to learn new skills.

For more information about the position, please contact Dr Forbes <u>kmforbes@uark.edu</u>. To be assured full consideration, applications must be submitted through the University of Arkansas recruitment portal (click here for link) by August 31, 2020.

More information on the Forbes lab can be found here. Fayetteville is located in a beautiful natural area amongst the Ozark Mountains, with a range of recreational and cultural activities in close proximity such as hiking, cycling, kayaking and fishing, as well as museums and theatres; it regularly ranks amongst top US cities to live (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fayetteville, Arkansas).

