



PhD Assistantship: Parasite Ecology and Evolution in Moose

A PhD position is available in the Kamath and De Urioste-Stone Labs at the University of Maine, through a new interdisciplinary NSF Research Traineeship (NRT) program in One Health, starting in the Fall 2020 semester. The student will examine the impacts of parasite infections in Maine moose (*Alces alces*), and use social science tools to facilitate communication and participatory planning. Integrating biological, social, and environmental data, the student will identify risk factors for parasite infections in moose, use genomic approaches to examine the genetic basis for infection phenotypes, and evaluate perceptions of risk, potential disease management strategies and communication tools. This study will provide key information to evaluate potential management approaches that will be supported by diverse stakeholders in order to ensure the long-term viability of moose in Maine.



The student will be co-advised by Drs. [Pauline Kamath](#) and [Sandra De Urioste-Stone](#), through the [Ecology and Environmental Sciences program](#). The student will also participate in an [NSF-NRT One Health program](#) that involves training in the integration of ecological, molecular, and social science approaches, professional development, and a management/policy internship. Traineeships include an annual stipend, free tuition and fees, and subsidized health insurance. U.S. citizenship or permanent residency is required to receive NRT funding. Competitive applicants will have a MS degree; previous research experience in ecology, evolution, or related field; experience in genomics and bioinformatics; a strong background in statistical modeling; and a demonstrated ability to work in diverse teams.



To apply, please send (1) a cover letter describing your qualifications, including relevant research experience, coursework, experience working in interdisciplinary teams, as well as a description of how your interests relate to One Health; (2) a CV; (3) GRE scores; (4) unofficial transcripts; and (5) contact information for three references. Combine materials into one (PDF) application file, and email it with the subject line, “One Health NRT PhD Position,” to Pauline Kamath at pauline.kamath@maine.edu. All applications received before **January 15th** will receive full consideration, but will be accepted on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

UMaine One Health NRT Program: A new [One Health and Environment](#) initiative at the University of Maine was awarded \$3 million from the National Science Foundation. The five-year project will train 71 [graduate](#) students, including 21 funded trainees, from a variety of STEM fields. It complements an NSF-funded program which recruits [undergrads](#) for a 10-week summer research experience in One Health. The project encourages interdisciplinary research in a range of systems, provides management and policy internships to encourage solutions-oriented practice and training to empower students to communicate with diverse audiences. We encourage women, first-generation students, veterans, students with disabilities and other under-represented groups to apply.

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