



Positions in Infectious Disease Surveillance & Emerging Viruses

We are seeking current students in health, environmental, or biological sciences, or bioengineering, to contribute to research in **infectious disease surveillance** in the Department of Biological Sciences at UAA. Candidates will gain real-world experience in zoonotic infectious diseases. Research credit may be arranged as appropriate. Recent graduates (BS/MS/MPH) will also be considered.

Infectious Disease Surveillance: One position will focus on computational analysis of avian influenza virus (AIV) surveillance data. The researcher will contribute to developing data processes for collecting, managing, and sharing of influenza virus and ecological data from host species. AIV hosts include wild and domestic birds, livestock, and marine mammals, and sporadic human cases. This position is a collaboration with a global influenza surveillance network (CEIRS). Candidates with statistics, database, GIS, and/or script programming skills and an interest in “digital epidemiology” are especially encouraged to apply. Research credit or a small stipend is available for this position.

Diagnostics of Emerging Pathogens: A second position is available for candidates interested in developing laboratory assays for detection, genome sequencing, and characterization of emerging pathogens, including avian influenza virus (AIV) and other emerging RNA viruses. Virus sequences will be analyzed by phylogenetics software. Candidates with statistics, phylogenetics, and/or gene sequencing skills and an interest in outbreak response are especially encouraged to apply. Research credit is available for this position.

Antiviral Immune Responses: A third position is available for candidates interested in immune responses and/or antiviral drugs against influenza and other emerging RNA viruses. T-705 (favipiravir) is a new antiviral drug effective against influenza, Ebola, and other emerging RNA viruses. The candidate will engage laboratory experiments to study the molecular mechanisms of T-705 and the cellular antiviral factor NF90 in cultured human cells. Candidates with molecular biology skills and an interest in antivirals are especially encouraged to apply. Research credit is available for this position.

Contact/Inquiries. Please send your CV and a short email about the position(s) that interest you to: ebortz@uaa.alaska.edu

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<http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/biological-sciences/faculty-and-staff/bortz.cfm>