

ASSISTANT SPECIALIST
University of California, Riverside

The purpose of this position is to provide research support focused on the taxonomy, systematics, biodiversity, and evolutionary biology of parasitic wasps in the superfamily Chalcidoidea. Comparative molecular, morphological and behavioral approaches are used to identify and assess relationships of wasps that may be important in biological control as pests of other insects, or potentially even as pests themselves. The candidate will develop an integrated research program to study the taxonomy and evolutionary relationships of parasitic wasps important in biological control. The focus is on the use of advanced approaches to describe species and hypothesize their relationships using morphological, molecular and behavioral features. Maintenance and development of databases for the management of systematic data is a core aspect of the position, as is delivery of this information through web-based products through our online web resource (<http://hymenoptera.ucr.edu>) as well as upgrading of our laboratory data management system that is based on FileMaker Pro software. As part of our NSF funded project the candidate must oversee the databasing and georeferencing of more than 12,000 parasitic wasps. Must have recognized expertise in the identification of parasitic wasp families including Aphelinidae, Pteromalidae and Trichogrammatidae. Tasks include recognition and description of a wide variety of Chalcidoidea, use of modern methods for acquisition and analysis of DNA data for identification and phylogenetics, development and management of relevant databases, image management and acquisition. Research will be closely tied to the research directions in the Heraty laboratory, but development of an independent program of research is essential. Research performance will be assessed based on publication in peer-reviewed journals, and the promotion of the science through participation in manuscript and grant review, and participation in University and Public outreach.

The candidate must have a PhD in Entomology, with recognized expertise and publication record on the taxonomy and morphology of parasitic Hymenoptera. The candidate must also have skills in image acquisition and database management.

Applicants are required to provide a CV, cover letter, statement of research, statement of diversity, five research publications and contact information for three confidential references. All materials should be submitted through AP Recruit online at: <https://aprecruit.ucr.edu/apply/JPF00804>. Review of applications will begin October 3, 2017. For more information about the position, please contact Dr. John Heraty, Department of Entomology, University of California, Riverside- heraty@ucr.edu.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

UCR is a world-class research university with an exceptionally diverse undergraduate student body. Its mission is explicitly linked to providing routes to educational success for underrepresented and first-generation college students. A commitment to this mission is a preferred qualification.