Laboratory and Field Operations Support Staff

Geology

Gustavus Adolphus College is a private liberal arts college in Saint Peter, Minn., that prepares 2,400 undergraduates for lives of leadership, service, and lifelong learning. Fully accredited and known for its strong science, writing, music, athletics, study-away, and service-learning programs, Gustavus hosts a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa and is internationally recognized for its annual Nobel Conference.

JOB SUMMARY:

This person will be responsible for data collection, sample collection and sample analysis for the Seven Mile Watershed Monitoring project, according to the schedule set by the project lead (L. Triplett or other faculty member). This includes installing, operating and maintaining field equipment, with the assistance of student researchers. They will help design and ensure that data quality protocols are followed, including coordinating the timely delivery of samples to the MVTL lab in New Ulm. They will report to the project lead, and will help supervise student researchers hired for the project.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

● Design and execute monitoring plans, involving collecting water samples, downloading data from field equipment and analyzing samples in laboratory using basic chemistry methods
● Repair and maintain laboratory instrumentation (e.g., chromatographs, field data collectors, and other equipment)
● Document field and laboratory work using notebooks, spreadsheets and supporting documents
● Deliver samples to external laboratory
● Supervise undergraduate researchers and coordinate their field and laboratory work hours and spaces
● Design and ensure compliance with internal data quality protocols
● Assist with organization of data and results
● Assist with reporting to Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
● Attend to safety in the field and laboratory
● Must be available on some evenings and weekends, with advance notice
● All other duties as assigned

MINIMUM EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE/QUALIFICATIONS:

● B.S., B.A., or higher degree in a physical or biological science
● Capable of prioritizing tasks to ensure data quality and timeliness of execution
● Ability to communicate effectively
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- Significant experience with word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation software (e.g., Microsoft Office suite)
- Valid driver’s license and willingness to become certified to drive college vehicles
- Ability and willingness to conduct field work in challenging conditions including in and around water, in inclement weather and on steep hillslopes
- Willing to meet on-call obligations as needed (some evening/weekend hours)

PREFERRED EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE/QUALIFICATIONS:

- 1+ years laboratory experience
- Experience with stream monitoring, including instrument operation and maintenance
- Experience with water quality analysis, including operating an ion chromatograph and filtering samples
- Knowledge of natural water chemistry, hydrology and ecosystems

WORKING ENVIRONMENT:

- Field work will be conducted in and around streams in the Seven Mile Creek watershed, which is located between St. Peter and Mankato, MN.
- Samples will occasionally be delivered (via car) to a laboratory in New Ulm
- Water quality analyses will be conducted in a geochemistry lab on the Gustavus campus

HOW TO APPLY:

Submit a resume, cover letter expressing your interest, and the names of three references through the Gustavus Human Resources application portal. Review of applications will begin on February 25, and the candidate will hopefully be able to start work in late March. Questions can be sent to triplett@gustavus.edu.

EEO/DIVERSITY STATEMENT

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