

Subject: Prospective Postdoc & Postdoc Fellow Position Application

Hello, my name is Mike Blazanin and I am currently a postdoc in Paul Turner's group at Yale University. I am exploring post-doctoral funding opportunities, and am reaching out to see if you might have time to discuss shared research interests and potential funding avenues I might pursue to work with your group?

I also saw the position you recently advertised on the experimental evolution of virulence, and have attached a pdf containing my letter of interest, CV, and contact information for three references.

My research uses a combination of experimental evolution, theory, and computational tools, spanning microbiology, ecology, and evolutionary biology. My past work has focused on phage-bacteria systems, interrogating how biotic interactions shape ecology and evolution, and developing methods for high throughput characterization. However, I hope to pivot into work on the ecology and evolution of host-microbe interactions, making your group an ideal environment.

I am broadly interested in a number of questions in host-microbe interactions that could be explored with your nematode-bacteria system. One particular area of interest is the possibility of leveraging my expertise in phage-bacteria interactions to explore how bacterial virulence evolves in the face of pressures from both phages, protective symbionts, and host immune systems. However, I am broadly interested in host-microbe ecology and evolution, so I look forward to the opportunity to discuss potential research topics with you.

Please let me know if you have any questions, and I hope to hear from you soon.

Thank you for your time,

Mike Blazanin
Postdoctoral Scientist
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Yale University

Chatting about postdoc possibilities

Hey Levi, hope your summer is going well!

I'm reaching out because I'm still very interested in potentially coming to Emory to work on *C. elegans* - microbe interactions with you and/or Nic as a postdoc. I'm exploring postdoc options to start spring/summer 2024, since I just finished my PhD last month and am sticking around

Yale for around a year as a postdoc with Paul to wrap up some of the projects I have going on. Hopefully that gives us time to apply for potential sources of funding.

Would love to talk about possible research topics and potential funding avenues I might pursue if you're still interested. My schedule is pretty open (aside from Tuesdays) for the next four weeks so just let me know what works best for you

Thanks!

Mike Blazanin

Postdoctoral Scientist

Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Yale University

Prospective postdoc interested in meeting

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I am broadly interested in a number of questions in host-microbe interactions that could be explored with your nematode-bacteria system. One particular area of interest is the possibility of leveraging my expertise in phage-bacteria interactions to explore how the presence of phages alters the predictability and dynamics of evolution between *C. elegans* and *E. coli*. However, I am broadly interested in host-microbe ecology and evolution, so I look forward to the opportunity to discuss potential research topics with you.

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I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for your time,

Mike Blazanin
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