Position Available: M.S. Student for Research in Marine Sciences

The Chemical Ecology Lab, directed by Dr. Zofia Baumann at the Department of Marine Sciences, University of Connecticut - Avery Point Campus (USA) is seeking a dedicated M.S. student to join a dynamic research team working on an innovative project exploring the cycling of monomethylmercury. The start date is January 7th, 2025. This NSF-funded project, titled "Collaborative Research: A Novel Approach to Study Monomethylmercury in Natural Phytoplankton Assemblages," offers a unique opportunity to engage in impactful marine science research.

About the Research: This collaborative project involves the University of Connecticut (UConn), the University of Rhode Island (URI), Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI), and Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences. As part of the UConn Marine Sciences community, the selected student will collaborate closely with scientists from these institutions. Notably, the majority of participating scientists are women with a strong track record of supporting diverse students.

Facilities and Resources: UConn's Avery Point Campus is equipped with world-class facilities designed for oceanographic research, including a cutting-edge mercury analytical facility with dedicated spaces for trace metal clean work, imaging and sorting equipment, such as the Imaging Flow Cytobot (IFCB) and BD Flow Cytometer. In addition to research assistantship, which is guaranteed for 2 years, funding opportunities may be available through teaching assistantships in the Department of Marine Sciences.

Interested candidates are encouraged to contact Dr. Zofia Baumann:
zofia.baumann@uconn.edu

Application Process and Timeline (also available here):

Prospective students apply for graduate study in the Department of Marine Sciences via the Graduate School's online application.

Applicants are expected to have a minimum of a bachelor's degree in a science or engineering field, or a bachelor's degree and a background including at least one year of college-level physics, biology, and chemistry as well as math through calculus, with a minimum 3.0 GPA in the combined science courses.

Admission is competitive, and successful applicants typically have strong recommendation letters, research experience, and GPAs higher than the minimum,

usually greater than 3.5 in the last four academic semesters. Students are accepted to the program based on merit and available funding.

Preferred Qualifications: We are looking for a motivated student with strong skills in written and oral communication, analytical chemistry, and computational techniques (Matlab, R, and Python). The ideal candidate should be detail-oriented, organized, and able to demonstrate:

- The ability to conduct fieldwork both from shore and aboard research vessels.
- Strong critical thinking skills and a deep curiosity for scientific inquiry.
- A self-driven attitude and the ability to complete tasks and requirements for the M.S. degree in a timely manner.

Commitment to Diversity: We encourage candidates of all backgrounds—regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation, nationality, economic status, and more—to apply. We are committed to fostering an inclusive and supportive environment for all students.

Required Materials: In addition to all Graduate School required documents, the Marine Sciences Department also requires a personal statement of purpose, three letters of recommendation, and a CV.

View the Graduate School's admissions requirements.