

Dr. Barbara Sharanowski Department of Biology University of Central Florida 4000 Central Florida Blvd. Orlando, FL 32816-2368 Barb.Sharanowski@ucf.edu

## Funded PhD (or MSc) positions in comparative genomics, bioinformatics, and evolution of parasitic wasps

The Sharanowski lab at the University of Central Florida loves parasitic wasps, nature, evolution, field work, museums, and everything insects! Currently, we are seeking a Ph.D. student to work on comparative genomics, bioinformatics, and evolutionary projects focusing on parasitic wasps in the superfamily Ichneumonoidea. A background in genomics, genetics, evolution, statistics and/or molecular biology would be ideal. Experience in basic programming (Python, R) is ideal, though interest and willingness to learn are also valuable. Students with a degree in biology, math, or a computer science are highly encouraged. Students with master's degrees and previous publications (or in prep) are preferred, but reach out if these topics are of interest to you but you're not sure you have the entire set of skills. If this advertisement calls to you, but you want to pursue a Master's degree, please reach out.

Graduate students are supported via a graduate teaching assistantship (GTA) from the Biology Department and are supplemented with summer salary from the Sharanowski Lab for full stipend support including tuition coverage and health insurance benefits. International students are welcome to apply. Interested applicants are encouraged to email Dr. Sharanowski by November 15<sup>th</sup> (sooner is better) with a

- A brief CV outlining research and educational experience and relevant skills with 3 names of academic references included
- Please include your GPA on your CV (feel free to explain) and note a GPA of 3 is the absolute minimum.
- A short description of your research interests including why you want to join the Sharanowski Lab.
- Please note, while LLMs like ChatGPT are great tools, please make sure your email reads like it came from you, and that is displays **YOUR** specific interest and knowledge of recent activities and publications in the lab (https://tinyurl.com/bzsaxac9), and is not overly generalized.

Dr. Sharanowski will only contact suitable applicants for a zoom interview to assess a good fit between the available projects and student and advisor. Applications to UCF are due Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. No GRE is required. The University of Central Florida is a large university and a designated Hispanic serving institution. Students from all backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Orlando is a diverse and beautiful city and the department, campus and city have supportive communities.

Dr. Barbara Sharanowski
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