The Jewell Research Lab in the Fischell department of Bioengineering at the University of Maryland (UMD) – College Park has an opening for a full-time research technician to support lab operations at the interface of biomaterials and immunotherapy. The goal of the lab is to understand the interactions between biomaterials and immune cells, and to exploit these interactions for therapeutic vaccines for cancer and autoimmunity. The lab’s projects are supported by 5 R01 and R01-equivalent awards from the NIH and US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), as well as grants from leading foundations and pharma/biotech companies. These efforts draw on a vibrant group of 16 postdocs, students, and support staff, integrating tools from immunology, engineering, chemistry, and medicine. For more info visit jewell.umd.edu.

The Jewell Lab consists of more than 2000 ft² of dedicated research space in the state-of-the-art A. James Clark Hall. Some of the equipment in the lab includes a flow cytometer, LED fluorescence dissection microscope, fully automated video fluorescence microscope with cell incubation, laser diffraction particle analyzer, and instruments for microfabrication. The Jewell Lab contains an ABSL-2/BSL-2 cell culture facility, as well as multiple rooms in the newest campus vivarium, established in Clark Hall in 2019. These resources are in addition to more than 20 core instruments housed in the BioWorkshop core instrument facility, the translational instrumentation suite in the Clark hall vivarium, and many other facilities around campus. Research in the Jewell lab is further supported with formal connections to the Greenebaum Cancer Center, US Dept. of VA, and University of Maryland Medical School. Additionally, UMD is located near top government research and funding agencies including NIH, FDA, DoD, NSF, and NIST. This proximity provides unique opportunities for research, funding, and networking.

Qualifications and Application Procedure

Duties for this position will include a range of activities to enable Jewell Lab research, including supporting i) benchtop experiments (e.g., flow cytometry, ELISA, histology, microscopy, cell culture, biomaterial synthesis and characterization), ii) pre-clinical animal studies (e.g., treatment, disease monitoring, cell/tissue isolation), iii) research data analysis, and iv) lab operations. Candidates should have a BS in immunology, bioengineering, molecular biology, animal sciences, or a related field. Candidates with MS degrees are also encouraged to apply. The ideal candidate will have past research experience with one or more of the following areas: rodent handling or translational research, isolation of primary cells or tissue, flow cytometry and ELISA, microscopy and histology, or other core immunology and molecular biology techniques. However, training in all techniques will be available for strong candidates and for continuing education. The work schedule for this full-time position is Sunday through Thursday.

UMD complies with all federal and state regulations regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action; all applicants will receive full consideration (https://uhr.umd.edu/eeo/). Successful candidates will receive a renewable contract with opportunities for continual training and career advancement through a mutually-designed career development plan. Compensation will be based on experience and will include retirement and a competitive UMD benefits package.

Interested candidates should assemble an application consisting of: i) cover letter, ii) CV, and iii) list of 3 references. The cover letter should describe the candidate’s experience, interest and expectations for the position, general salary expectations, and preferred start date. E-mail the application as a single PDF file to Dr. Xiangbin Zeng, Lab Manager (xzeng@umd.edu) with “Jewell Lab Technician Candidate” in the subject line.

Key dates
Candidate review: January – February 2020
Interviews: February 2020
Target start date: March 2020