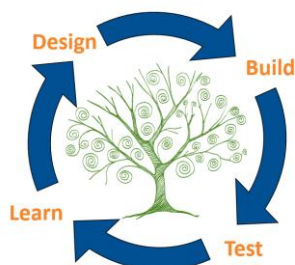




Biofoundry Automation Scientist



Synthetic Biology (SynBio) applies engineering principles to life sciences to rationally Design, Build, Test, and Learn (DBTL cycle) how organisms can be redesigned for useful purposes or to acquire new abilities. The laboratories of Catalin Voiniciuc (Associate Professor) and Andrew Hanson (Eminent Scholar and Professor) are currently acquiring a set of fully equipped [Opentrons OT-2](#) lab robots to instantiate the UF IFAS biofoundry that will speed up research and development in agriculture, microbiology, and food science. We were recently awarded a research infrastructure grant from the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS), and benefit from generous support from the Horticultural Sciences Department.

A biofoundry is an infrastructure that assembles genetic parts for many users, speeding up the Design to Test steps, and can be combined with Artificial Intelligence (AI) methods (Learn phase) to model the results. Together, SynBio and AI enable iterative DBTL cycles to address large-scale biological questions that are too costly or technically impractical to address by manual labor.

Position Description and Requirements: A full-time scientist who has completed a BSc degree or higher in microbiology, biological engineering, or a related discipline, and has relevant work experience. Familiarity with high-throughput experimentation and programming of liquid-handling platforms would be an asset. This position will lead the implementation of Opentrons-driven procedures for collaborative projects between the labs of Dr. Voiniciuc, Dr. Hanson and other IFAS faculty. In addition to co-supervising part-time assistants, the Automation Scientist will contribute to educating other UF IFAS personnel and their collaborators in what automation can do for their programs and thus drive a cultural shift towards larger-scale experiments and thinking.

Benefits

- Position is funded for two years and could potentially continue beyond that period
- The position benefits from the strong, inter-disciplinary connections of Dr. Voiniciuc and Dr. Hanson to SynBio faculty in IFAS, Engineering, Pharmacy, and other units.
- Join the beautiful main campus of one of the top-five public universities in the U.S.
- World-class core facilities for cytometry, biochemistry, microscopy and AI
- Great quality of life: year-round sunshine, a wealth of outdoor and cultural activities

To apply:

Email your motivation letter and CV to **both** cvoinicu@ufl.edu and adh@ufl.edu, with the subject line "UF Biofoundry Automation Scientist". Applications must be received by May 15, 2023 to ensure full consideration.

Visit DesignerGlycans.com and ADHansonLab.org for more details about our research topics, team members, publications, and international collaborations.