**Number of GAs: 1**

**Position: Graduate Research Assistant (RA)**

**Position Summary:**

This is a position for a research assistantship in microbial fermentation and genetics. In this lab we collect bacterial specimens from Yellowstone National Park to discover new bacterial species and enzymes that function in hot temperatures. We analyze these newly isolated bacterial genomes and metagenomes of hot springs through Next-Gen Sequencing (NGS) and bioinformatics tools. Past sequencing and collections from the hot springs have identified new thermophiles such as the Bacillus licheniformis YNP5-TSU. In addition to DNA biotechnology the OHair lab also focuses on the bioconversion of waste feedstocks into bioproducts. One main feedstock, food waste, can be converted into biofuel through fermentation and has shown to be a viable renewable energy option.

**Responsibilities:**

* Plan and coordinate research assignments with lab advisor and lab-mates
* Attend monthly lab meetings and single one-on-one meetings with lab advisor
* Blending and processing of food waste
* Growing and culturing of bacterial specimens
* Preparation of media, plates, and chemicals
* Must be available 20 hours a week (Monday-Friday)
* Access to a computer for NGS sequencing data

**Qualifications:**

* Strong communication Skills
* Strong writing skills and use of Microsoft Office
* Customer service skills
* Organized
* Punctual
* Good attitude and willingness to learn