



Graduate Research Fellowship in Oceans & Human Health

University of Connecticut, Department of Marine Sciences - We are seeking a self-motivated, enthusiastic student to participate in a National Science Foundation, Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Disease project beginning **Summer 2010**. The project focuses on interactions between microbial communities, marine aggregates and suspension feeding bivalves. Research initiatives will evaluate the links between aggregates and public health by examining the way in which aggregates mediate uptake and accumulation of pathogens in several species of commercially important bivalves. Techniques of microbiology, video endoscopy, and molluscan physiology will be employed in the research. The successful candidate will work towards a doctoral degree in Oceanography (Marine Biology concentration) at the marine sciences campus of the University of Connecticut in recently constructed research facilities. The student will interact with collaborating scientists at Old Dominion University (Virginia), University of Minnesota-Duluth, and University of Georgia. Additional opportunities for interaction are possible between the student and participants of Connecticut's "Interdisciplinary Research and Training Initiative on Coastal Ecosystems and & Human Health" (www.i-rich.uconn.edu/).

Applications are being accepted from candidates who have a background in microbiology or related field, and who are interested in shellfish biology and human health. Applicants with a MS degree are preferred, but those with a BS and at least 1-year work experience will be considered. Screening of applications will begin in November and the successful student will be notified in January 2010. This is a competitive research assistantship position and carries with it a full stipend (9 months plus summer salary) and tuition benefit. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

Interested individuals should contact Dr. J. Evan Ward (evan.ward@uconn.edu; <http://web2.uconn.edu/jevanward/>). More information about the Department of Marine Sciences' graduate program can be found at www.marinesciences.uconn.edu.