The University of Washington is seeking a part-time laboratory research scientist to study metabolic activities and protein expression in cold-loving bacteria (or psychrophiles) in ice and brines. The successful candidate will work with Karen Junge - APL-PI with expertise in low temperature microbiology and environmental microbiology (http://psc.apl.washington.edu/people/staff_pages/Junge_Karen/home.php). He or she will have responsibilities to conduct and coordinate laboratory experiments under supervision. The work efforts will focus on using conventional microbiological and radioisotope tracer techniques to measure microbial growth rate, metabolic activity, viability, ability to survive while inactive, and longevity for halophilic psychrophiles in three low-temperature liquid-water environments that mimic the known chemistry of brines: i) in sea ice on modern Earth, ii) on Snowball Earth, and iii) on Mars. The successful candidate will work with halophiles to choose a model organism that will be subjected to mars-analog ice or brine conditions at subzero temperatures.

This research is funded by the NASA Exobiology program and thus the candidate should have an interest in astrobiological research questions.

Minimum qualifications are a Bachelor, Masters (or higher) degree in Microbiology, Biological Oceanography, Molecular Biology or a related discipline, publication in peer-reviewed scientific journals, and a valid driving license. The candidate will need to be able to work independently. Demonstrated skills in scientific methodologies, especially aseptic microbiological technique and the ability to carry out complex experiments are required, including e.g. bacterial recovery and culture, light and epifluorescence microscopy. The successful candidate needs to be able to pay attention to detail, and be an accurate and detailed note taker. Experience with marine bacteria and/or extremophiles (especially working with halophiles or psychrophiles), most probable number (MPN) counting techniques, radioisotope tracer techniques for metabolic studies, proteomics and/or microscopy techniques will be considered positively.

This is an hourly part-time position (around 20 hours a week depending on project needs) and offers salary commensurate with experience. Screening of applicants will begin as soon as possible and continue until a suitable candidate is identified. Initial appointment will be for 12 months starting September 1st, 2019 with extension possible of up to a total of two years depending on the availability of funding.

Applicants should submit preferably via e-mail letter of introduction (3 page max. that addresses qualifications described above), CV, list of publications and the names and addresses of three references to:

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