

M.S. Assistantship Opportunity: Field and Genetic Studies of Non-Matrix Forming Corals in South Texas

We are inviting applications for a graduate position (MS) in genetic studies of non-matrix forming corals. Research will consist of field collection of corals and laboratory research aimed at genetic identification and population assessments of mesophotic coral populations on natural and artificial reefs in the Gulf of Mexico. The appointment is to begin in Spring 2015 (January 12, 2015) in the Biological Sciences Department at the University of Texas-Brownsville. Student support is offered through a departmental teaching assistantship.

Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree in biology, ecology or a related field. Successful candidates must demonstrate an aptitude for research and ability to work independently. Prior experience with molecular techniques is preferred, as is the ability to conduct fieldwork under hot weather conditions. A current, valid U.S. driver's license and good driving record is also preferred. The successful applicant will be expected to enroll full time in the UTB Biological Sciences Master of Science program pursuing the thesis option. The available teaching assistantship has a stipend of \$1,100 per month, is benefits eligible, and includes a waiver for in-state-tuition for out-of-state students. Funds are available for continued support at the same rate through summer months.

A minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0 and minimum new GRE scores of: verbal 153 and quantitative 144 are required. Interested applicants should send to Dr. David Hicks (david.hicks@utb.edu<mailto:david.hicks@utb.edu>) a copy of their CV or resume, GPA and GRE scores, a written statement of graduate research interests, and contact information for two references. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.