MS Assistantship -- Aquatic ecology

Description: A MS position is available in the Davenport lab to study the effects of predator phenology on experimental food webs. The focal aspects of the research will pertain to responses of lower trophic levels and ecosystem function within pond ecosystems. The field component of the research will be conducted in the Missouri Ozarks and the experimental work will be completed on campus at Southeast Missouri State University. Coursework will be carried out at Southeast Missouri State University and the field season will be from early September-late June. The student will also have additional research and outreach opportunities such as participating in long-term monitoring of wetland vertebrate populations and additional food web research. The position begins in the January 2018. This position will be supported by a grant funded RA position that includes an annual stipend and full tuition waiver.

Qualifications: Prospective students should have prior experience in field biology, familiarity with zooplankton sampling and identification, a working knowledge of statistics, demonstrate good communication skills and be willing to work with others in humid environments. Prior experience in surveys of pond-breeding amphibians and invertebrates is preferred but not required. Prospective students should also possess a valid U.S. passport and driver’s license. A B.S. in biology, ecology or wildlife biology is required with a GPA >3.0. Applicant must meet admittance criteria set by the Southeast Missouri State University Graduate School and Biology graduate program.

Application materials: Interested applicants should email the following items to Dr. Jon Davenport (jdavenport@semo.edu) by November 1: 1) cover letter detailing past research experience and professional goals, 2) CV or resume, 3) 2 references, and 4) unofficial transcripts.