



United States Department of Agriculture

Research, Education and Economics
Agricultural Research Service

To whom it may concern:

I have a current opening for a post-doctorate candidate to augment our Bioenergy Research project at the National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research. NCAUR (Peoria, IL) is a U.S. Federal laboratory managed by the Agricultural Research Service of the U.S.D.A. The facility includes 100 scientists working in various areas of agricultural value-added research. This is a two-year appointment and candidates who have received their degree within the past two years or who plan to graduate by spring of 2015 are encouraged to apply. Salary is commensurate with experience (\$57,408 - \$59,321 per annum) plus benefits. Federal employee citizenship restrictions apply.

The candidate will research the use of oleaginous yeasts for production of lipids and other value-added products from biomass-derived mixed sugar streams. The project entails characterizing novel lipid producing yeasts for growth and lipid production on hydrolysates prepared from perennial bioenergy crops, including optimizing culture and medium conditions for lipid and co-product yields and productivities. The candidate will also be expected to construct accurate mass balances and conduct first-order techno-economic assessments to evaluate process scenarios for production of lipids and related co-products, such as carotenoids. Process evaluations would not be limited to the microbial conversion, but would potentially explore other operations that could strongly impact economics. The ideal candidate will have a strong basic process engineering background, knowledge of engineering unit operations and cost analysis. Experience with lipid and carotenoid research, cultivating microorganisms, or biochemical conversion of biomass is desirable but not necessary.

Sincerely,

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