

## Postdoctoral Fellow Position in Cardiovascular Functional Genomics

University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston

The Ward Lab (<https://www.ward-lab.org/>) at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston is seeking a Postdoctoral Fellow to lead core projects focused on cardiovascular functional genomics. The goal of the Ward Lab is to dissect the global role of regulatory elements, including those derived from transposable elements, in directing gene expression in healthy, stressed and disease states in cardiovascular disease-relevant cell types. We use a variety of population and evolutionary genomics approaches and induced pluripotent stem cell-based tools to tackle this problem.

Projects are available in several areas including:

- understanding gene regulatory dynamics during differentiation to cardiovascular cell types
- investigating gene regulatory processes in response to perturbation within and between species
- measuring the impact of inter-individual variation on cardiovascular disease-relevant cell types

We are looking for a highly motivated, enthusiastic individual to join our growing team. Candidates should have received their Ph.D. within the last year in Genetics, Molecular Biology, Cell Biology, Evolutionary Biology, Systems Biology, Computational Biology or a related field. They should have excellent communication skills and a good track record of productivity, including a first-author paper.

The University of Texas Medical Branch, located on the island of Galveston, is a member of the University of Texas System, the Texas Medical Center (the largest medical center in the world based in Houston - approximately 50 miles away), and the Gulf Coast Consortia in Quantitative Biomedical Sciences, thereby providing a vibrant research community. There are excellent Core facilities on campus including Next Generation Sequencing, Flow cytometry and Proteomics.

Please apply by sending a cover letter, C.V., and contact information for three references via email to Dr. Michelle Ward ([miward@utmb.edu](mailto:miward@utmb.edu)). Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Informal enquiries are welcome.

Recent related publications:

Ward, M.C.\*, Banovich, N.E.\*, Sarkar, A., Stephens, M. and Gilad, Y. Dynamic effects of genetic variation on gene expression revealed following hypoxic stress in cardiomyocytes. *eLife* doi.org/10.7554/eLife.57345 (2021).

Ward, M.C. and Gilad, Y. A generally conserved response to hypoxia in iPSC-derived cardiomyocytes from humans and chimpanzees. *eLife* doi.org/10.7554/eLife.42374 (2019).

Ward, M.C., Zhao, S., Luo, K., Pavlovic, B.J., Karimi, M.M., Stephens, M. and Gilad, Y. Silencing of transposable elements may not be a major driver of regulatory evolution in primate induced pluripotent stem cells. *eLife* doi.org/10.7554/eLife.33084 (2018).