Graduate Research Assistantship; Cannabis molecular genetics and horticulture.

The Principal Investigator is working with several companies to apply knowledge of molecular genetics, horticulture management, and physiology of plant growth regulators to improve production of the non-psychotropic cannabinoid cannabidiol (CBD) in hemp Cannabis. CBD is under development as an anti-convulsive therapeutic pharmaceutical. The research program includes: A) Developing tissue culture as a cloning, transformation and regeneration platform. B) Developing a knowledge of horticultural practices and hormone physiology that allow manipulation of Cannabis growth and development to alter female flower production and CBD levels. C) Using molecular/genetic approaches to manipulate and monitor expression of genes encoding cannabinoid and terpenoid biosynthetic pathway enzymes. D) Develop horticultural practices to aid in production of hemp Cannabis in a field production context. E) Use yeast as a heterologous expression system to transfer Cannabis biosynthetic pathway genes for fermentation production of cannabinoids. Join a dedicated and vigorous team of researchers including undergraduates and post docs who are developing new knowledge in this exciting field; you can work on one or several of the above objectives. Prefer candidate with M. S. and/or B. S. degree in molecular biology but open to all. Current starting Academic Year stipend: $22,243-$23,405, plus full medical benefits and tuition scholarship. Summer salary also available. Position available as soon as Spring semester 2018. UConn is committed to providing equal employment opportunities to all its employees and applicants for employment. All applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, ethnicity, religious creed, age, sex, marital status, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, genetic information, physical or mental disabilities (including learning disabilities, intellectual disabilities, past/present history of a mental disorder), prior conviction of a crime (or similar characteristic), workplace hazards to reproductive systems, gender identity or expression, or other factors which cannot lawfully be the basis for employment actions.

Contact information: Send an email with pertinent information; letter of interest as well as a Curriculum vitae to: Gerald.berkowitz@uconn.edu or mail to: Dr. Gerald Berkowitz Agricultural Biotechnology Laboratory U-4163 1390 Storrs Rd. University of Connecticut Storrs CT 06269