Position opening: Staff Scientist in the Laboratory of Biomolecular Structure and Function (LBSF) at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (OUHSC)

The Laboratory of Biomolecular Structure and Function (LBSF) at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (OUHSC) seeks an experienced crystallographer to run the daily operations of the LBSF. The position is at the Staff Scientist level. The candidate will be responsible for working with PIs to advance their structural biology projects. These efforts will include routine technical operations, developing new protocols to overcome challenging problems, and training the staff of user labs in protein purification, crystallization, data collection, and structure determination. The ideal candidate for this position will have a PhD and ten years of experience in macromolecular crystallography, a strong work ethic, and the ability to independently carry out each step of the standard crystallographic study workflow. This a service position, not a training position. The candidate will not be expected to write grant applications to support their position.

Pluses in a candidate's background include experience with instrument repair, eukaryotic protein expression, membrane protein purification and LCP crystallization, Cyro-EM, microED, SAXS, SANS, XAFS, NMR, or XFELS.

The LBSF is part of a suite of core labs supported in part by the OUHSC Vice President of Research. The LBSF is also part of the Biomolecular Structure Core (BSC) for the Oklahoma Center of Biomedical Research Excellence in Structural Biology (OCSB), which is based on the main campus in Norman. The OCSB was awarded five more years of NIH funding in May 2022. The BSC has contributed to the awarding of 26 million dollars in grant funding and 36 publications in the past ten years. The OCSB has been the focal point of Oklahoma's structural biology community for nine years. The community includes 50 labs at three major research institutions.

The BSC is a vital part of a new Center for Therapeutic Science. The center coordinates and fosters the drug development pipeline with the BSC playing a central role in structure-based drug design. The LBSF is working closely with Dr. Matt Hart (https://basicsciences.ouhsc.edu/bmb/Faculty/bio_details/hart-matthew-phd-1), Director of the newly established Center for High Throughput Screening.

Most of the 12 major users of the LBSF have cancer-related projects. One project led to the 2021 publication of crystal structures of RET Kinase bound to two drug molecules recently approved by the FDA for the treatment of non-small cell lung cancer (https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33161056/). Most of the major users are members of the Stephenson Cancer Center, a National Cancer Institute-designated cancer center.

The compensation level for this full-time position includes a generous benefits package. The position is based in Oklahoma City -- an affordable place to raise a family. To apply, please submit a cover letter, CV and contact information (name and email) for three references to Blaine Mooers, Director of the Laboratory of Biomolecular Structure and Function at OUHSC, at

blaine-mooers@ouhsc.edu. Also apply for Job # 223015 – Staff Scientist Structural Biology at jobs.ou.edu. The position will remain open until filled. Application review will begin immediately.

OUHSC is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive environment for all employees.