

Faculty Member Contact Information

Name: **Vance McCracken**
Department: **Biological Sciences**
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Description of the URCA Assistant Position(s)

Number of students requested: **1**
Number of students to receive funding: **1**
Will the student(s) be eligible to earn course credit? Yes No **X**
Location of research/creative activities: **SL3215a, 4222**

Brief description of the nature of the research/creative activity:

Studies into the pathogenicity of *Helicobacter canadensis*, a pathogen carried by Canada geese that also causes disease in humans.

Brief description of student responsibilities:

Students will assist in design and execution of experiments to evaluate inflammatory and immune response to *H. canadensis* using cell line (mouse and human intestinal epithelial cells) and, possibly, animal (*H. canadensis* infected mice) models. Students will be required to learn aseptic cell culture technique and will also be required to undergo training for animal care.

URCA assistant positions are designed to provide students with *research or creative activities* experience. As such, there should be measurable, appropriate outcome goals. What exactly should your student(s) have learned by the end of this experience?

Students successfully completing these projects will have learned laboratory techniques associated with cell culture and/or animal studies, including several basic microbiological and immunological techniques. Data gathered from these preliminary experiments will be used for submission of extramural grants; students would also be able to apply results of their studies toward a senior assignment project and present data at a state- or nationwide meeting.

Requirements of Students

If the position(s) require students to be available at certain times each week (as opposed to them being able to set their own hours), please indicate all required days and times:

Work times will be agreed upon based on student and PI schedules

If the location of the research/creative activities is off campus, must students provide their own transportation?

N/A (no off-campus activities are planned)

Must students have taken any prerequisite classes? Please list classes and preferred grades:

No

Other requirements:

Must be willing to work with mice

Notes to applicants (i.e., any other information you'd like applicants to know about you or the position before applying):

None