

## Research Asst/Technician 3 (Wet lab)

Staff - Non Union

Job Category

Non Union Technicians and Research Assistants

Job Title

Research Asst/Technician 3 (Wet lab)

Department

Karsan Laboratory | Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine | Faculty of Medicine

Compensation Range

\$3,905 - \$4,612 CAD Monthly

Posting End Date

December 22, 2020

**Note:** Applications will be accepted until 11:59 PM on the day prior to the Posting End Date above.

**Job End Date**

Jan 3, 2022

### Job Summary

Responsible for providing technical support for ongoing research projects. Assists with in vitro and in vivo molecular and cell biology experiments related to research in hematopoiesis and leukemia. Performs general lab duties as required.

### Organizational Status

Reports to and receives general guidance from the Senior Technician, and Principal Investigator (Faculty member). Will interact with post-docs, graduate students, and other technicians in the lab.

### Work Performed

- Plans and performs experiments utilizing complex procedures or techniques.
- Troubleshoots experimental problems and assists trainees with same.
- Collects and records experimental data; analyzes and interprets experimental results. Assists other technicians and research trainees with various experimental procedures, as required, including cell culture, cloning, Western blots, immunoprecipitation, ChIP, qPCR, flow cytometry, lentiviral production, etc.
- Processes and inventories clinical samples
- Leads the maintenance of Biosafety Protocols in accordance with current institutional guidelines
- Assists senior technician in organizing and maintaining reagents, supplies and equipments in the lab.
- Assists in purchasing reagents and supplies.
- Responsible for maintaining updated inventory of cell lines, clinical samples, and lentiviral and plasmid constructs.
- Performs general lab duties as required (make media, reagent aliquots, update inventories, etc).
- Has, or able to obtain, transport of dangerous good certification. Receives and handles human samples for experimental use.

### Consequence of Error/Judgement

The work requires attention to detail. Errors, if undiscovered, could have a major impact on the projects of other lab members and overall financial state of the lab.

### **Supervision Received**

Day-to-day supervision by the laboratory manager and senior technician. Works independently in the lab with support from other technicians/research trainees. There will be a weekly group meeting with the Principal Investigator and all technicians, plus regular meetings with the senior technician and occasionally with the PI.

Training and supervision for specific work functions will be available from the incumbent.

### **Supervision Given**

This position may be partially responsible for supervision of co-op students. The successful applicant will assist graduate student and postdoc trainees with experiments, and will be responsible for verifying that assigned tasks (e.g. fee-for service) are carried out correctly, with follow up if not.

### **Preferred Qualifications**

B.Sc. in Biochemistry, Molecular Biology or a related field, preferred.

- Experience with basic molecular biology (DNA, RNA, protein work, mammalian tissue culture) is required.
- Familiarity with Access or other database software would be an asset.
- Experience with writing research protocols or SOPs for research is preferred.
- Effective oral and written communication and organizational skills.
- Ability to work both independently and within a team environment.
- Ability to lift up to 20 kg.

### **Citation:**

“Research Asst/Technician 3 (Wet lab).” UBC Human Resources, 11 Dec 2020,  
[https://ubc.wd10.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/ubcstaffjobs/job/UBC-Off-Campus-Hospital-Sites/Research-Asst-Technician-3--Wet-lab-\\_JR491](https://ubc.wd10.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/ubcstaffjobs/job/UBC-Off-Campus-Hospital-Sites/Research-Asst-Technician-3--Wet-lab-_JR491).

Syed Ahmed  
452 UBC Rd, Vancouver,  
BC Canada, V6T 1Z3

December 12, 2020

UBC Hiring Manager  
600 Agronomy Road, Vancouver,  
BC Canada, V6T 1Z3

Dear UBC hiring manager,

Please consider my application for “Research Asst/Technician 3 (Wet lab)” (Job Reference JR491) as advertised by UBC on the Myworkday website. I have over 6 years of academic and work experience in biological research labs. This has involved work on projects in molecular biology, clinical epidemiology, computational biology and evolutionary biology.

My undergraduate degree is in Biochemistry. My undergraduate thesis research project required the isolation, purification and characterization of cellulase from the Blue Pumpkin beetle (link to thesis is provided in resume). I have practical experience in a range of microbiology/molecular biology methods including DNA extraction, qPCR, Western Blot and others that are listed on my CV. I am a quick learner and highly motivated to learn any new techniques that are required.

My other laboratory experience includes an 8-month internship carrying out a retrospective study on the treatment outcomes of Hepatitis-C treatment with Interferon and Ribavirin at SKM Cancer Hospital, a 6-month research assistantship in computational biology investigating the role of microRNAs in Wheat genome evolution at LUMS SBS and a 3-year research assistantship at University of California, Riverside on the thermal evolution of insect body size during my Masters studies.

Due to my diverse research and work experience, I am experienced in the different stages of a research project, from planning and literature review, to developing methods, laboratory protocols needed for streamlined workflow of a running project, as well as data analysis. On the bench, I set high standards for my work, have an eye for detail, keep meticulous records and ensure laboratory equipment is tested and calibrated.

Please don't hesitate to contact me on [syedw@student.ubc.ca](mailto:syedw@student.ubc.ca). I look forward to the chance to speak with you further. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
*Syed Ahmed*

Syed Ahmed.  
Encl. Resume

# Mr. SYED WAQAR AHMED

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**Address:**

835 Homeview Court,  
London, Ontario,  
N6C 6C1

**Email:** syedw@student.ubc.ca**Cell:** (+1) (647) 516-8934**LinkedIn:** [www.linkedin.com/in/syedahmed101](http://www.linkedin.com/in/syedahmed101)

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**OBJECTIVE:** Seeking a position as research assistant in a biological science laboratory and transitioning to laboratory manager in the longer-term.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

January 2017- **TNS Beaconhouse, Lahore.**

Oct 2020 High School Teacher: *Biology and Environmental Systems and Societies* for the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.

2016 **School of Science and Engineering, LUMS, Lahore.**

**Department of Biology,**

Research Assistant in Computational Biology lab working with PI Dr Aziz Mithai:  
Investigating the role of microRNAs in Wheat genome evolution.

2015 **University of California, Riverside.**

Teaching assistant: BIOL002: "Cellular Basis of Life".

2012 **University of California, Riverside**

Teaching Assistant: BIOL-5C: "Introductory Evolution and Ecology".

2012- **University of California, Riverside.**

2015 **Department of Biology.**

Research Assistant in Evolutionary Biology lab working with PI Dr Leonard Nunney:  
Investigating the thermal evolution of insect body size.

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## EDUCATION

2015 **MSc in Evolution, Ecology & Organismal Biology.**

**University of California, Riverside.**

CGPA: 3.84/4.00

2008 **4-year BSc (Hons) in Biochemistry**

**Institute of Biochemistry & Biotechnology**

**The University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan.**

CGPA: 3.56/4.00

GRE (General):  
1420/1600

iBT-Toefl:  
117/120

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## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Research on investigating the role of microRNAs in Wheat genome evolution at LUMS.
  - Research project on Temperature-dependent evolution of body size in insects at UCR.
  - Research on the “Treatment outcomes and molecular epidemiology of Hepatitis C patients treated by Interferon and Ribavirin” at Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Centre.
  - Undergraduate thesis on the “Purification and characterization of Blue Pumpkin Beetle Cellulase” at University of the Punjab.
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## LABORATORY SKILLS

Gel Electrophoresis with computer imaging analysis, High Performance Liquid Chromatography, Gel Filtration column chromatography, ELISA, Western Blot, qPCR, Bacterial culture, Microscopy and photomicrography with software assisted image analysis, Antibiotic susceptibility testing, Enzyme assays using UV spectrophotometry, Centrifugation, Lyophilization, Electromicrobalance, Autoclaving, Titration, Flame emission spectrometry, Refractometry, Rearing and life-history trait testing of Fruit Fly *Drosophila melanogaster*, University of California yearly refresher courses on advanced laboratory protocols, fundamentals of lab safety and chemical hygiene plan.

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## SOFTWARE SKILLS

Minitab, SPSS, EndNote, MS Office, Adobe Photoshop

TS-view and IS-Capture used with photo-micrographs for morphometrical analysis of fly morphology. Protein bioinformatics tools such as Geno3D, T-coffee, Accelrys protein modeller, Deep-View Swiss Prot, Blast-P, Swiss-Model.

DNA/RNA high-throughput sequencing data analyzed in “Integrated Genome Viewer”, “CLC Genomics Workbench v7.0, “Velvet”, “BlastX/GO”, RNAFold, mirCheck, Bowtie2 and InterProScan function.

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## PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES & ORGANIZATIONS

- Biologist-in-Training - Alberta Society of Professional Biologists
  - UCR Biology Graduate Students Association Outreach – Participated in Biology department outreach activities in the local Southern California area offering career counselling to students interested in the STEM fields.
  - UCR Biology Department Journal Club
  - SSE – The Society for the Study of Evolution – Graduate student member
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## AWARDS

- Recipient of Fulbright Master’s leading to PhD fellowship (2008)
  - Short-listed for Commonwealth scholarship (declined in favour of the Fulbright award) (2008)
  - Third World Academy of Sciences-ROCASA-Summer Research Fellowship Award for a 3-month research project in evolutionary biology at Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bangalore, India. (Unable to attend due to denial of Indian visa) (2008).
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## REFERENCES

Available upon request.

Syed Ahmed

452 UBC Rd, Vancouver,  
BC Canada, V6T 1Z3

December 12, 2020

Dr Sana Anwar  
Dept of Clinical Research  
SKMCH, Lahore,  
Pakistan.

Dear Dr Anwar,

I hope this email finds you well. I hope the clinical research lab continues to hum with activity. My time working with you on the Hep-C research project was one of the most valuable learning experiences of my life and I very much enjoyed my time working with you. Your recommendation letter was instrumental to my successful graduate school application. I was hoping you would be willing to write me a letter of recommendation for a job application.

As you can see in the attached cover letter, I have applied for the position of Research Assistant at a cancer research lab at UBC. The job requires experience with DNA/RNA techniques and experience writing research protocols and SOPs. In my graduate studies I carried out work on the genetic underpinning of insect body size, a significant portion of which required use of high-through-put next generation sequencing techniques to study the genetic architecture of body size. Therefore, I feel I am qualified for this job. As my research project supervisor, you have observed my work closely and your endorsement of my abilities and skills will count for a lot.

I have included my latest CV which will bring you up to date with my recent study and work experiences. I have also attached the recommendation letter I received from you at the end of my work which you might find helpful in refreshing your memory of the work I did at SKMCH.

If you would be comfortable to endorse me for this job, please email me on [syedw@student.ubc.ca](mailto:syedw@student.ubc.ca) so I may be able to answer questions you may have and provide you more information about the process. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Syed Ahmed*

Syed Ahmed.

Encl. Resume, cover letter, recommendation letter

Syed Ahmed  
452 UBC Rd, Vancouver,  
BC Canada, V6T 1Z3

December 12, 2020

Dr Parvez Azhar  
Department of Biology  
LUMS, Lahore,  
Pakistan.

Dear Dr Azhar,

I hope this email finds you well. I hope the computational biology lab continues to hum with activity. Working with you on the wheat genome project was one of the most valuable learning experiences of my life and I very much enjoyed my time working with you. I was hoping you would be willing to write me a letter of recommendation for a job application.

As you can see in the attached cover letter, I have applied for the position of Research Assistant at a cancer research lab at UBC. The job requires experience with DNA/RNA techniques and experience writing research protocols and SOPs. As my research project under your supervision had involved very similar work, you are the right person to vouch for my abilities and skills.

I have included my latest CV which will bring you up to date with my work since LUMS. I have also attached the work experience letter I received from you at the end of my work which summarizes my job responsibilities and the research tasks I accomplished at LUMS.

If you would be comfortable to endorse me for this job, please email me on [syedw@student.ubc.ca](mailto:syedw@student.ubc.ca) so I may be able to answer questions you may have and provide you more information about the process. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
*Syed Ahmed*

Syed Ahmed.

Encl. Resume, cover letter, work experience letter

Syed Ahmed  
452 UBC Rd, Vancouver,  
BC Canada, V6T 1Z3

December 12, 2020

Dr Lennard Nunes  
Department of Biology  
UCR, Riverside, CA,  
USA.

Dear Dr Nunes,

I hope this email finds you well. I hope the fly lab continues to buzz with activity. Working in the fly lab was one of the most valuable learning experiences of my life and I very much enjoyed my time working with you. I was hoping you would be willing to write me a letter of recommendation.

As you can see in the attached cover letter, I have applied for the position of Research Assistant at a cancer research lab at UBC. The job requires experience with DNA/RNA techniques and experience writing research protocols and SOPs. As my research project under your supervision had involved similar work, you are the right person to vouch for my abilities and skills.

I have included my latest CV which will bring you up to date with my work after graduating from UCR.

If you would be comfortable to endorse me for this job and write me the recommendation, please email me on [syedw@student.ubc.ca](mailto:syedw@student.ubc.ca) so I may be able to answer questions you may have and provide you more information about the process. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
*Syed Ahmed*

Syed Ahmed.

Encl. Resume and cover letter