

For Academic Year AY2007

Dear Applicant to the Graduate Program in Biology:

Thank you for your interest in graduate studies in Biology at the University of Miami. Enclosed are an application form, and a Peterson's Guide that includes information about the department and its faculty. You can obtain more information about faculty, current graduate students, and graduate degree programs by browsing our home page at (<http://fig.cox.miami.edu>). If you do not have access to the Internet, please notify the Graduate Coordinator, Beth Goad, by electronic mail at (bgoad@bio.miami.edu), or regular mail and we will send you a hard copy version of the same information.

Please note that for those interested in related graduate programs at the University of Miami, please contact the appropriate school:

Rosenstiel School for Marine and Atmospheric Sciences for graduate programs in marine biology, at http://www.rsmas.miami.edu/grad-studies/application/application_intro.html

<http://chroma.med.miami.edu/grad/phd.html> (Other contact links)

Molecular, Cell & Developmental Biology - <http://chroma.med.miami.edu/cellbio/>

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology - Alessandro Castro, telephone number (305) 243-6213, or <http://amiga1.med.miami.edu/>

Microbiology and Immunology Department - <http://www.miami.edu/microbiology-immunology>

Physiology and Biophysics - <http://chroma.med.miami.edu/physiol/>

Medical School Graduate Program Director - <http://chroma.med.miami.edu/mdphd/>

Or see http://www.med.miami.edu/education/graduate_degree_programs.asp

(Information about these programs should be obtained directly from these schools).

Students may apply to the Ph.D. program, without first earning a M.S., or to the M.S. program. Priority in admission, however, is given to students who desire a Ph.D. over those interested in a terminal M.S., and we encourage students to apply at the Ph.D. level if that is their ultimate goal. There are no special application forms for financial support. All applications **received by January 1st** (including all supporting documents such as GRE scores, letters of reference) will be considered for both fellowship and assistantship support. Applications for assistantships only will be accepted until January 15th, but students are advised to complete their applications prior to that date to insure full consideration. All applications (including GRE scores and letters of reference) must be **received no later than January 15th to be considered for admission**. Admitted students normally matriculate in mid-August, although in exceptional cases graduate study may begin in January.

To apply for admission, submit all materials **DIRECTLY** to *Dr. Leonel Sternberg, Director of Graduate Studies in Biology*, **NOT** to the *Graduate School* or to *International Admissions*.

For consideration, a complete application will include:

1. A completed application form including a letter that outlines your background and goals (#15 on the application form). Internet applications found at <http://www.bio.miami.edu/programs.html> "Click Here" under Graduate Degrees.
2. GRE scores for both the general and subject (Biology) tests; TOEFL scores for foreign students (in addition, foreign applications may be enhanced by submission of Test of Spoken English (TSE) scores).
3. Official transcripts of all previous undergraduate and graduate courses.
4. Letters of recommendation from science instructors/supervisors that address:
 - a. The nature and duration of relationship with the applicant
 - b. Evidence of the applicant's motivation
 - c. The applicant's ability to conceptualize and deal quantitatively with biological problems
 - d. Evidence of the applicant's research potential
 - e. The strength of the recommendationAlthough letters are preferred, it is acceptable to submit the form provided with the application, with extended comments on the back of the sheet.
5. A written statement of sponsorship from one or more University of Miami, Department of Biology faculty members. On a separate page, included with your application, please clearly indicate those faculty members with whom you will communicate regarding sponsorship. All prospective graduate students must communicate with members of our faculty whose research interests are most similar to their own, and arrange for such sponsorship. This is one of the most important considerations in making final decisions on admission, and contact between the student and potential sponsor should involve substantive communication.
6. Copies of published research papers or manuscripts, senior theses or reports, etc., if any. These are also very important components of your application.
7. A check or money order for \$50.00, made payable to the University of Miami.

I look forward to your application. If I may be of additional assistance please write or call. You may contact the graduate program assistant, Beth Goad, or me at (305) 284-5116.

Sincerely,

Leonel O. Sternberg
Professor and Director
Graduate Studies in Biology
P.O. Box 249118
Coral Gables, FL 33124-0421