



Masters (MSc) in Biotechnology

**Institute for Microbial Biotechnology and Metagenomics,
University of the Western Cape, South Africa**

The Institute for Microbial Biotechnology and Metagenomics (IMBM) is a leading research unit based within the Department of Biotechnology at the University of the Western Cape (UWC). Our research employs culture-based approaches as well as cutting edge "omics" strategies to study microbiomes, and identify novel biosynthetic gene clusters and metabolites. The Institute focuses on the research and development of novel, high-value natural products for the pharmaceutical, cosmeceutical, food & beverage and agricultural industries, as well as products for industrial processes.

Description of Research:

A position is available on a NRF-funded project investigating the microbial ecology associated with agricultural soils. The project will combine classical, culture-based microbiological techniques with metagenomics to study the bacterial communities colonizing two important agricultural crops. A NRF grantholder-linked bursary is available for the project.

Minimum Criteria:

Applicants must have completed an Honours degree in a foundational discipline relevant to the topic (Biotechnology, Microbiology, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology) with an average course mark of 60%. Experience in basic microbiological techniques is a requirement.

Application Submission:

The candidate will be under the supervision of **Dr Bronwyn Kirby-McCullough**. Applicants are to submit their CV and covering letter to bkirby@uwc.ac.za.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 20 JULY 2019



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a place to grow, from hope
to action through knowledge