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**ScienceCareers**

FROM THE JOURNAL SCIENCE **MAAAS**

[ScienceCareers.org](http://ScienceCareers.org)



NASA seeks a new **Director** for the NASA Astrobiology Institute (NAI). The ideal candidate will be an internationally recognized scientist with proven experience in leading or managing large interdisciplinary research programs or projects, possessed with a vision for leading the Institute into the future. Applicants for this position should have a broad scientific perspective on astrobiology, experience in conducting interdisciplinary scientific research, and demonstrated skills needed to harness the strengths of disparate research communities towards a greater goal. S/he should understand how to grow a research endeavor and respond to changing budget climates while focusing on maximizing the scientific return on NASA's investments in astrobiology. S/he should have experience in leading a diverse staff ranging from established scientists to support personnel, resource planning, and executing budgets and schedules. S/he should be comfortable with modern information technologies and distributed research teams. NASA is particularly interested in applicants who will find ways to infuse astrobiology into NASA flight missions.

The NAI Director is both the senior scientific officer and chief operating officer of the NAI. The Director coordinates scientific activities of the Institute's member teams and is responsible and held accountable for all operational aspects of the NAI, including the administration of personnel, budget and NASA policies. The Director will lead the NAI in fulfilling its mission to perform, support, and catalyze collaborative interdisciplinary astrobiology research; train the next generation of astrobiologists; provide scientific and technical leadership for astrobiology space mission investigations; develop new information technology approaches for collaborations among widely distributed investigators; and support K-12 education and public outreach programs.

Established in 1998 as part of NASA's Astrobiology Program, the NAI is a virtual, distributed organization of competitively-selected teams that conduct and integrate astrobiology research and training programs in concert with the national and international science communities. The Institute has 12 teams including ~600 researchers distributed across ~100 organizations as well as 13 international partner organizations. Headquartered at NASA Ames Research Center in the heart of California's Silicon Valley, the NAI links researchers across the US and around the globe using modern information technologies.

The NAI serves a vital role in advancing the goals of the larger NASA Astrobiology Program, with a focus on seeking the answers to these fundamental questions: How does life begin and evolve? Is there life beyond Earth and, if so, how can we detect it? What is the future of life on Earth and beyond?

U.S. citizenship is required for the NAI Director.

Interested individuals should apply directly to **USAJobs** at [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov). In the keyword search box, type vacancy number "AR15S0001". Select "Director, NASA Astrobiology Institute", then click "Apply Online".

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**LSU Health**  
NEW ORLEANS

## School of Medicine

### WILLIAM & SARAH JANE PELON ENDOWED CHAIR DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY, IMMUNOLOGY & PARASITOLOGY

LSU Health Sciences Center School of Medicine is initiating a search for a senior researcher to join the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Parasitology. Candidates will be considered for appointment as Professor on the tenure track and should have a strong record of research accomplishment, lead an active, nationally funded research program, and have a commitment to developing collaborative translational research programs. This position is associated with the endowed William and Sarah Jane Pelon Chair, designed to enhance the scholarly productivity of the incumbent.

The ideal candidate will have a Ph.D. and/or M.D., demonstrated team-building ability, and a strong track record of developing translational research from basic scientific observations. Expertise in all areas of host/pathogen interaction will be considered, but special consideration will be given to those complementing existing core departmental strengths in HIV, HIV-related infections, and sexually transmitted diseases.

LSU Health Sciences Center School of Medicine offers a highly interactive and collegial environment, with a strong history of collaborative research programs and state-of-the-art infrastructure, including core laboratories in genomics, proteomics, bioinformatics, imaging, and flow cytometry. Excellent opportunities exist for interaction with clinical departments, and with research Centers of Excellence in Vaccine Development, Cancer, Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Cardiovascular Biology, and Neuroscience. Anticipated duties and responsibilities will include sustaining an exceptional research program, mentoring graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, and participation in departmental and school graduate and undergraduate teaching programs. The institution offers competitive start-up packages and salaries.

Qualified applicants with a substantial record of scientific achievement should send a single PDF document containing their curriculum vitae including details of publications, previous and current research funding, teaching experience, a statement of research plans, and the names of at least three referees to: [SOM-Recruits@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:SOM-Recruits@lsuhsc.edu) with **Professor - MIP** in subject line.

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