Dear Prospective Students,

Welcome to the Langston Lab at the University of Tennessee. As you may know, Knoxville hosts the flagship campus in the University of Tennessee system. Exemplary teaching and world-class research are our missions. My graduates have taken jobs at a wide variety of institutions. Some have assumed faculty positions in academia, including the University of Kansas, the University of North Carolina and the University of Washington. Others have chosen careers in national laboratories, including the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Still others have assumed technical/management roles in industry, including DuPont, Qualcomm and Broadcom, Inc. I’m always on the lookout for bright, eager students. Please keep reading to determine whether this may be the right sort of place for you.

My students and I work as a team on algorithm design and program synthesis, efficient parameterized techniques, and highly efficient implementations. We collaborate with domain scientists in a variety of application areas, most of which are related in one way or another to the health sciences. Details about current and recent research projects are available elsewhere on my webpage.

Here’s a little checklist for your convenience. You might be interested in my research program if you:

- enjoy the design and analysis of algorithms,
- are not afraid of a little graph theory and combinatorics,
- want to learn about high performance computing,
- like to be on the cutting edge of novel algorithmic and mathematical concepts,
- know or are willing to learn a few applied statistical tools,
- embrace the challenge of working on real problems with real data, and
- enjoy meeting new people and studying problems in widely varying disciplines.

I am fiercely supportive of students who are ethical, hardworking, loyal and reliable. In reciprocation, I expect students to show discipline and initiative, and to be good team players. If you have these interests, skills and traits, then it’s likely that you will thrive here.

I hope you will consider the University of Tennessee. But wherever you go, I wish you every success in your academic career.

Michael A. Langston  
Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science  
The University of Tennessee