

## DON L. TUCKER, PH.D.



Don L. Tucker received a B.S. in Secondary Science Education from [Oklahoma State University](#) and a Ph.D. in Molecular Microbiology from [Purdue University](#). His post-doctoral experience includes functional genomic analysis of the E. coli acid tolerance response performed in the laboratory of Dr. Tyrrell Conway at the [University of Oklahoma](#) and characterization of E. coli in a low-shear modeled microgravity environment in the laboratory of Dr. George Fox at the University of Houston in collaboration with Dr. Richard Willson (U of H) and Dr. Duane Pierson (NASA JSC).

Dr. Tucker joined USRA in 2004 as a BFSB Postdoctoral Fellow and continued his study of E. coli in a simulated space environment with Dr. Duane Pierson in the NASA JSC Microbiology Department. The goal of this research is to help determine if any changes in bacterial physiology, virulence, or stress resistances occur that could be detrimental to astronauts during a long-term space mission. Dr. Tucker completed his BFSB Appointment in May of 2006.