Postdoc: Plant Speciation & Pollination. UM-StLouis

Postdoctoral Researcher in Plant Molecular Phylogenetics

I am looking for a postdoctoral researcher to join my lab at the University of Missouri – St. Louis. The NSF-funded project involves constructing a species-level phylogeny for the Neotropical genus Burmeistera (Campanulaceae) using high-throughput sequencing approaches (targeting low-copy nuclear regions with enrichment probes and genome-skimming for plastomes). Results will be used to test the relative roles of pollinator-mediated, gametic, and postzygotic reproductive isolation in the diversification of Burmeistera. Candidates should have experience with plant molecular phylogenetics, including labwork and bioinformatics analysis of next-gen data, and an interest in plant speciation and/or pollination biology. Successful applicants will also be encouraged to carry out his or her own research projects related to work done in the Muchhala Lab (see www.umsl.edu/~muchhalan). The start date for the position is flexible, from August of 2018 to January 2019. Funding is available for one year, with renewal for up to three years given satisfactory progress.

St. Louis is a vibrant Midwestern city that boasts an exceptional quality of life, combining a low cost of living with a variety of cultural attractions including parks, museums, and lively music and art scenes. The University of Missouri – St. Louis has strong local ties with the Missouri Botanical Garden, the Saint Louis Zoo, Washington University, St. Louis University, and the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, and annual retreats (sleec.weebly.com) bring together ecologists and evolutionary biologists from these and other local institutions.

The Department also houses the Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center, established to promote international research, particularly in tropical regions.

Review of applications will begin on July 20th. Informal inquiries are welcome: muchhalan@umsl.edu. Submission online at http://www.umsl.jobs: click ‘Faculty’ tab, ‘Get Started’ tab, then search ‘26783’ (the Job ID #). Applicants must combine application materials, including 1) a short statement (one to two pages) on previous experience, research interest, and motivation for applying, and 2) a curriculum vitae, into a single PDF or Microsoft Word document and upload as a resume attachment. Additionally, have three recommendation letters sent to muchhalan@umsl.edu. For questions about how to apply, please call (314) 516-5258, or if you are experiencing technical problems, please email pshrsupport@umsystem.edu.

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