

Postdoctoral position in Evolutionary Genomics

**Postdoctoral position in Evolutionary Genomics at the Department of Zoology.
Reference number SU FV-0217-15.**

Deadline for applications: apply ASAP and evaluations will begin March 1, 2015, with a decision to take place in April.

Project description

We are seeking a highly motivated postdoctoral researcher to join our ongoing ecological and evolutionary functional genomics (EEFG) research on a range of butterfly species. The research will be focused on 1) exploiting our extensive in-house population genomic data from 10 different Nymphalidae species, and 2) assembling and studying the genomes of 4 additional species in an analysis of gene family dynamics.

The principal goals of the project are to investigate the genetic basis of local adaptation and species differences in physiological performance (e.g. flight) and host-plant usage. We have developed sufficient in-house experience for genome assemblies and now we wish to start using these resources to address fundamental questions. From our perspective, an equally important goal of the position is that it will constitute an important step for the postdoctoral researcher towards securing a position as an independent researcher. Because of this, we encourage the postdoctoral researcher to design and pursue additional projects, to obtain experience in student supervision, and to develop his/her scientific network through collaborations and participation in scientific meetings.

The Department of Zoology has an excellent history of studying butterfly ecology and evolution. The position will be in the lab of Christopher Wheat (see website), which consists of 4 PhD students and 1 Postdoc. Currently we are primarily focused upon integrating our various studies of overwintering diapause, immune performance, and wing coloration with our genomic and transcriptomic data for the *Pieris napi* butterfly.

Environment

The position will be based at the Department of Zoology, in the division of Population Genetics, at Stockholm University. The Department hosts five research groups focused on butterfly ecology and evolution, which have a long history of fruitful collaboration:

PI: Dr. Christopher Wheat

PI: Dr. Karl Gotthard

PI: Dr. Christer Wiklund

PI: Dr. Soren Nylin

PI: Dr. Niklas Janz

We have extensive rearing facilities, recently renovated wet lab space, and extensive computational and genomic resources, provided in part by generous funding from the Wallenberg Foundation and the Swedish Research Council. The campus is located 4 metro stops from the center of Stockholm, which by many is regarded as one of the most beautiful capitals in the world and is home to a vibrant scientific community with several leading research institutes, including the Science for Life Laboratory (SLL) and the Swedish Museum of Natural History. The SLL is a leading genomics core facility that we routinely use.

Eligibility and selection criteria

The applicant must hold a PhD in biology or a related field, and the degree should have been received no more than three years before the deadline for applications. The ideal candidate is a creative and independent researcher that can work well in a team environment. A record of scientific achievement in computational genomics is essential, as is previous experience in handling NGS data using scripts and analysis pipelines. Experience with butterflies is not necessary, but documented experience with linux is required. Additional merits include experience in computer programming, population genetics and gene family dynamics.

Terms of employment

The position is for two years full-time. The start date of the position is flexible, but should ideally be before June 2015.

Information

For further questions regarding the position, please contact Dr. Christopher Wheat (chris.wheat@zoologi.su.se).

Union representative

Anqi Lindblom-Ahlm (Saco-S) and Lisbeth Häggberg (Fackförbundet ST), telephone: +46 8 16 20 00 (switchboard), and Gunnar Stenberg (SEKO), telephone: +46 70 316 43 41.

Application

Applicants should submit a CV including a publication list, and a cover letter describing their research interests, qualifications and reasons for applying. The cover letter should also indicate the applicant's ideal starting date and a list of two persons who may provide references. Please submit the application as a single pdf document, marked with the reference number SU FV-0217-15, no later than March 1, 2015, by e-mail to registrator@su.se.

Please state the reference number SU FV-0217-15 also in the subject line of your e-mail.