Postdoc position: Genetics and Ecology of Dispersal

Dispersal remains as one of the most important but least understood processes in plant ecology. We seek an individual with experience and expertise in genomics, ecology, and GIS, or at least two of these fields to participate in an NSF-funded Macrosystems Biology project on responses of upland prairie plant communities to climate change. The successful candidate will have intellectual purview over the design and implementation of experiments to analyze genomic variation for the estimation of dispersal under contemporary and historical landscapes. This work will be conducted in collaboration with PIs, graduate, and undergraduate students at Portland State University (Cruzan lab) and the University of Oregon (Roy lab).

Plant species present unique opportunities and challenges for landscape genetic analyses, as the behavior of their associated biotic and abiotic dispersal vectors as well as the distribution of suitable habitat may affect the distribution of genetic variation. Understanding how landscape features may facilitate or limit the dispersal of plants is particularly critical as climate change affects the occurrence of suitable habitat. We wish to recruit a postdoc interested in plant ecological genetics and willing to participate in the development of methods in landscape genetics for the analysis of dispersal among plant populations. Experience with genomic and bioinformatic methods, GIS analyses, and field ecological methods would be beneficial. Interested individuals should send a letter of introduction to Mitch Cruzan (Cruzan@pdx.edu) or Bitty Roy (bit@uoregon.edu) that includes a brief statement of your background. Please include an essay outlining your research interests and a recent copy of your CV.

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