

A postdoctoral research fellowship is available in the lab of Dr. Duane McKenna (University of Memphis) to participate in a variety of highly collaborative projects related to the phylogeny and evolution of beetles and beetle genomes.

The successful candidate will work with collaborators to establish a bioinformatic pipeline for the NSF-funded 1K Weevils Project (anchored phylogenomics), analyze beetle data in association with the 1KITE Beetle Subproject (phylogenomics, transcriptomes), and contribute to beetle genome and comparative genomics projects in the McKenna Lab, e.g., in collaboration with the Insect 5000 Genomes Project. These are primarily bioinformatics, phylogenomics, and comparative genomics projects involving extensive analysis of genome- and transcriptome-scale data sets. The position is based at the University of Memphis, but includes opportunities for travel to work with collaborators. The initial appointment is for one year, renewable for one additional year provided the first year review shows satisfactory progress. The position offers a competitive salary plus benefits. Start date is flexible, though interested individuals are encouraged to apply immediately. Review of applications will begin on February 6, 2015; however applicants will be considered until the position is filled.

Required Qualifications:

- A Ph.D. in computational biology, evolutionary genetics/genomics, phylogenomics, bioinformatics, or a related field. Advanced ABD's may be considered if degree completion is imminent
- Experience with manipulating and analyzing genomic and transcriptomic NGS sequence data
- A strong record of prior publication in genome-scale data analysis, including bioinformatics pipeline construction, phylogenomics, and/or genome structure and evolution
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills, including a proven ability to work both independently and as part of a team

Desired Qualifications: (Ideal applicant; applicants without these skills will be considered)

- Proficiency in computer programming
- Experience working with arthropods (especially insects)
- Experience with standard molecular laboratory techniques
- Experience with the analysis of traditional molecular phylogenetic data

The successful applicant will be expected to work/collaborate with another postdoc and with graduate students in the McKenna Lab.

To apply, submit a cover letter stating your research accomplishments and interests, qualifications relevant to the position (especially in reference to the required and desired qualifications listed above), a curriculum vitae, two representative publications, and the names and contact information for three references (submit at: <http://workforum.memphis.edu/postings/8680>). Inquiries about the position may be directed to Duane McKenna (dmckenna@memphis.edu <<mailto:dmckenna@memphis.edu>>).