The University of British Columbia
Michael Smith Laboratories

3-Year Postdoctoral Position in Conifer Genomic Selection

A highly motivated postdoctoral fellow will lead a project in genomic selection (GS) of western redcedar (WRC, *Thuja plicata*) as part of an applied conifer genomics project funded by Genome Canada and Genome British Columbia. The successful candidate will work in a multidisciplinary team of researchers from academic and non-academic organizations. These include the University of British Columbia (UBC), the British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (BC MoFLNRO), the University of Florida, Forest Products (FP)Innovations and forest industry. The position will be in the laboratory of Dr. Joerg Bohlmann (http://bohlmannlab.msl.ubc.ca/) at the UBC Michael Smith Laboratories (www.msl.ubc.ca) with major research activities at other centres, including the BC MoFLNRO's Cowichan Lake Research Station on Vancouver Island under the direction of Dr. John Russell (www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/tree-seed). The project investigates multi-trait GS in the WRC breeding program with the main emphasis on heartwood durability, as well as growth, foliage pathogens and deer resistance. The program involves developing/analyzing a training/validation population, and if appropriate, implementing genomic selection in the WRC breeding program. The project builds on existing large-scale transcriptome sequences and will be in conjunction with sequencing the WRC genome.

Job Description

- Collect and manage phenotypic and genomic data for training/validation populations;
- Apply statistical models to training population to determine appropriate models for GS;
- Incorporate genomic selection for multiple traits in the F1 WRC population;
- Write scientific papers for peer-reviewed journals and present at scientific conferences;
- Assist in supervision of students and technical staff involved in the project;
- Assist in coordination of activities across academic and non-academic project partners.

Qualifications

- Experience with a Ph.D. in quantitative genetics, or genetic statistical analysis;
- Experience in dealing with complex datasets including organizing, analysis, and archiving;
- Experience in forest genomics or conducting genomic selection analyses;
- Experience in breeding or forest genetics an asset;
- Experience with wood and foliar chemical analysis an asset.

Other Skills and Abilities

- Excellent oral and written communication skills documented with peer-reviewed publications;
- Excellent organizational skills;
- Ability to work both independently and in teams;
- Experience in supervising personnel.

Application:

- Cover letter, CV, and names and contact information of three references should be sent to Dr. Carol Ritland (critland@mail.ubc.ca).

- The cover letter must clearly state how the applicant meets the required qualifications, skills and abilities. Candidates should use the individual experience factors listed above as a header and explain in one or two paragraphs for each how they meet the expected experience criteria by giving concrete examples. It is not sufficient to only state that the qualification is met or to provide a listing of current or past responsibilities.
- The successful applicants must meet all essential qualifications to be considered appointed to the position.

This position is available as of November 1, 2016, and will be initially for one year with the possibility of renewal for up to a total of three years, at a starting salary of $ 48,000 CDN annually. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

UBC hires on the basis of merit and is committed to employment equity. We encourage all qualified persons to apply.

a place of mind
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA