Postdoctoral Researchers – Genomic and Phenomic Adaptation

As part of a new, collaborative NSF funded EPSCoR Track-2FEC research and training program in the genomic ecology of coastal organisms and genome-phenome relationships in the wild, we are seeking to hire two postdoctoral researchers, one at the University of Maine and one at the University of New Hampshire. Both postdocs will work in collaboration with a diverse team of investigators, graduate students, and undergraduate students studying the ecological genomics and eco-evolutionary feedbacks of adaptation in tidal marsh birds.

The postdoctoral position at the University of Maine is focused on the Spatiotemporal Scales of Phenotypic and Genomic Adaptation. We seek to hire a researcher who will develop and conduct meta-analyses on the spatial and temporal scales of phenotypic and genomic evolution in the wild. The postdoc will conduct meta-analyses based on existing and new evolutionary rates databases to understand important spatial aspects of phenotypic divergence from microgeographic to global scales. This work will be conducted in the labs of Drs. Michael Kinnison and Brian Olsen at the University of Maine. The successful candidate must have a strong background in evolutionary ecology and strong quantitative skills, with preference to those with demonstrated experience with meta-analyses or analysis and visualization of complex datasets.

The second postdoctoral position is in Ecological Genomics and Bioinformatics and is available at the University of New Hampshire. The postdoctoral research will conduct assembly of genomes and transcriptomes and analysis of genomic and transcriptomic data to identify signatures of selection and the genomic architecture of adaptation in a tidal marsh bird study system. The work will be conducted in Dr. Adrienne Kovach's lab at the University of New Hampshire, in close collaboration with Dr. Kelley Thomas of the UNH Hubbard Center for Genome Studies and Dr. Benjamin King at the University of Maine. The successful candidate must have a strong background in evolutionary ecology, population genetics, genomics and bioinformatics, with preference to those with project-relevant experiences and interest (e.g., avian systems, natural populations, coastal systems, adaptation to environmental gradients). Desired computational skills include data processing in a command-line environment and programming in at least one scripting language (e.g., R, Python). Additional desired qualifications include laboratory bench skills, quantitative skills and excellent communication and writing skills.

Consistent with our program scope and to advance an integrated understanding of adaptation in nature, we are especially interested in candidates who show promise to engage intellectually across the diverse scales of genomes, phenomes, and environmental feedbacks. Both postdocs will be expected to engage collaboratively with team members participate in broader programmatic activities, including mentoring of junior researchers. In turn, the postdocs will receive extensive mentoring, career development training, and professional opportunities, in alignment with a personal career development plan.

Start Date: January 2019 (negotiable)

Terms of employment: Salary of $48,000, health insurance, and other benefits are included. The position is for an initial 2-year period, with the potential for extension if deemed appropriate. Applicants must have completed all Ph.D. degree requirements prior to the start of the appointment

Application: submit names and contact information for three references, a CV, and a 2-page statement of your research experience and interests. The statement should further address how this position

would advance your career goals and describe your experiences with and vision for collaborative science, including your commitment to diversity and inclusion. To apply for the Spatiotemporal Scales of Phenotypic and Genomic Adaptation Postdoc, send the requested materials to Dr. Michael Kinnison, Professor of Evolutionary Applications, at the University of Maine at mkinnison@maine.edu and Dr. Brian Olsen, Associate Professor, School of Biology and Ecology, at the University of Maine at brian.olsen@maine.edu. To apply for the Ecological Genomics and Bioinformatics Postdoc, send the requested materials to Dr. Adrienne Kovach at the University of New Hampshire at akovach@unh.edu. Review of applications will begin November 1, 2018. Remote (e.g., phone or Zoom) and an on-campus interview and presentation will be required of short-listed finalists.

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