PhD in Experimental Evolution with Yeast, Stockholm University

Application closes 1 March 2018

Starting date: as soon as possible but latest 1 August 2018

Selected candidates will use experimental evolution with the budding yeast Saccharomyces to study evolutionary processes. Potential topics include but are not limited to 1) adaptation to changing environments, 2) the genetic architecture of fitness and 3) hybrid speciation.

I am looking for a highly motivated candidate with a strong interest in evolutionary and conservation biology, ideally with experience in experimental evolution and quantitative/molecular/population genetics. Prior training in Saccharomyces yeast cultivation, statistics and programming (e.g. R, Python) is a plus. Applicants should be able to think quantitatively, be well-organized, good communicators, and happy to work in our growing team as well as independently. The applicant is expected to be fluent in English.

Training will be provided in experimental evolution, forward and reverse molecular genetics, statistics, bioinformatics, yeast cultivation, and microbiology. The work will mostly be lab-based but may include some fieldwork with natural yeasts. There is flexibility within the project for the student to develop their own interests. The graduate program covers four years of full-time study. The position can be combined with teaching (maximum 20%), which prolongs the employment with the corresponding time. The successful candidate will receive salary and full social benefits according to local agreements. The position is funded by the Swedish Research Council (VR).

All applications must be sent through this platform: https://www.su.se/english/about/working-at-su/instructions-applicants. The application should include 1) a letter describing yourself, your research interests, and your motivation to apply for this position, 2) a CV with a list of degrees, other completed courses, and work experience, 3) an authorized copy of your master degree and course grades, 4) degree projects/theses/publications; 5) the names and email addresses of at least two referees. The application should be written in English.

Contact: For more information, please contact Rike Stelkens: rike.stelkens@zoologi.su.se, +46 8 16 42 23.

Environment: The campus is located four metro stops from the centre of Stockholm, one of the most beautiful and dynamic European capitals. The campus is home to a vibrant scientific community, and we are well-connected to the Science for Life Laboratory (a leading genomics core facility that we
routinely use) and the Swedish Museum of Natural History. Sweden is a free and open society, and one of the world’s most innovative and research-intensive nations. People here enjoy a respected system of democracy and individual rights, freedom of speech, a free press, the right to scrutinize those in power, and access to beautiful nature. Most Swedes speak English.

Relevant references:
2. Stelkens RB, M Brockhurst, G Hurst, D Greig, Hybridization facilitates evolutionary rescue, Evolutionary Applications, 2014, 7(10): 1209-1217;