Doctoral student in Biology

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Lund University, Faculty of Science, Department of Biology

Lund University was founded in 1666 and is repeatedly ranked among the world’s top 100 universities. The University has 40,000 students and more than 8,000 staff based in Lund, Helsingborg and Malmö. We are united in our efforts to understand, explain and improve our world and the human condition.

The Faculty of Science conducts research and education within Biology, Astronomy, Physics, Geosciences, Chemistry, Mathematics and Environmental Sciences. The Faculty is organized into nine departments, gathered in the northern campus area. The Faculty has approximately 1500 students, 330 PhD students and 700 employees.

Work duties

The entomological collections at the Biological Museum in Lund contain over 5 million specimens, collected over the past 300 years. With the advent of next generation sequencing technologies and non-destructive DNA extraction methods, these collections can now be leveraged for genome-scale evolutionary, phylogenetic, biogeographic, and population genomic studies. The possibility to analyze populations from a distant past will provide much needed context to present patterns of genetic variation, as well as opportunities to directly measure evolutionary processes.

We here search for a PhD candidate that will use this genetic treasure trove to decipher gene-environment interactions and intraspecies communication through whole genome sequencing of key taxa in Diptera and Lepidoptera. The proposed project is interdisciplinary, and will enable the prospective PhD candidate to acquire a wide range of skills in state-of-the-art molecular biology, genomics, bioinformatics, as well as experience with behavioral and physiological methodologies. The PhD candidate will accordingly be trained by supervisors with complementary skills and interests. Primary supervisor will be Dr Marcus Stensmyr, with Prof Christer Löfstedt, Dr Jadranka Rota, and Prof Niklas Wahlberg as co-supervisors.

The main duties of doctoral students are to devote themselves to their research studies which includes participating in research projects and courses. The work duties can also include teaching and other departmental duties (no more than 20%).

Admission requirements

A person meets the general admission requirements for PhD-studies if he or she:

• has been awarded a second-cycle qualification (i.e. completion of master’s level studies), or

• has satisfied the requirements for courses comprising at least 240 credits of which at least 60 credits were awarded in the second cycle, or

• has acquired substantially equivalent knowledge in some other way in Sweden or abroad.

Additional requirements

In addition to the general mandatory requirements to be accepted for PhD education, the candidate should have:

• An MSc in Molecular Biology, Genetics, Evolutionary biology, or related area.

• Interest in entomology.
- Very good ability for proactive and independent work.
- Practical experience in bioinformatics and analysis of genomic data.
- Excellent knowledge of English, both in reading comprehension and writing.

In addition to the mandatory requirements, documented experience in the following areas will be considered as strong merits:

- Experience in data processing, statistical computing, and scripting.

Assessment criteria
Selection for PhD-studies is based on the student’s potential to profit from such studies. The assessment of potential is made primarily on the basis of academic results from the first and second cycle. Special attention is paid to the following:

1. Knowledge and skills relevant to the thesis project and the subject of study.
2. An assessment of ability to work independently and to formulate and tackle research.
3. Written and oral communication skills.
4. Other experience relevant to the third-cycle studies, e.g. professional experience.

Consideration will also be given to good collaborative skills, drive and independence, and how the applicant, through his or her experience and skills, is deemed to have the abilities necessary for successfully completing PhD-studies.

The employment of doctoral students is regulated in the Swedish Code of Statues 1998: 80. Only those who are or have been admitted to PhD-studies may be appointed to doctoral studentships. When an appointment to a doctoral studentship is made, the ability of the student to benefit from PhD-studies shall primarily be taken into account. In addition to devoting themselves to their studies, those appointed to doctoral studentships may be required to work with educational tasks, research and administration, in accordance with specific regulations in the ordinance.

Terms of employment
Limit of tenure, four years according to HF 5 kap 7§. A doctoral studentship is a fixed-term employment of a maximum of 5 years (including 20% departmental duties). Doctoral studentships are regulated in the Higher Education Ordinance (1993:100), chapter 5, 1-7 §§.

Instructions on how to apply
Applications shall be written in English and include a cover letter stating the reasons why you are interested in the position and in what way the research project corresponds to your interests and educational background. The application must also contain a CV, degree certificate or equivalent, and other documents you wish to be considered (grade transcripts, contact information for your references, letters of recommendation, etc.).

Lund University welcomes applicants with diverse backgrounds and experiences. We regard gender equality and diversity as a strength and an asset. We kindly decline all sales and marketing contacts.

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**Type of employment**

Temporary position longer than 6 months
First day of employment 1st of February, 2021 or according to agreement

Salary Monthly salary

Number of positions 1

Working hours 100

City Lund

County Skåne län

Country Sweden

Reference number PA2020/3476

- Marcus Stensmyr, Senior lecturer, +46462223787, marcus.stensmyr@lu.se

Contact

Union representative
- OFR/ST:Fackförbundet ST:s kansli, 046-222 93 62
- SACO:Saco-s-rådet vid Lunds universitet, 046-222 93 64
- SEKO: Seko Civil, 046-222 93 66

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