

Graduate Research Assistant Position in Cell Communication and Signaling

Prospective candidates are invited to apply for a Ph.D. research assistantship to conduct interdisciplinary research in Prof. Jung-Youn Lee's laboratory (<https://leelab.dbi.udel.edu>) at the Delaware Biotechnology Institute, Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, University of Delaware, U.S.A.

The Lee lab is considered one of the frontier labs in the biology of plasmodesmata, membrane-lined cell-to-cell communication channels that are vital for the development and physiology, and survival of plants. The research findings from Lee laboratory have been published in high-impact journals, including Nature Communications, Nature Plants, Cell Host Microbes, eLife, and Plant Cell.

The successful candidate will participate in cutting-edge plant research in a stimulating and interdisciplinary environment. The candidate will join the team to investigate molecular and cellular mechanisms underlying the interactions between chloroplasts and plasmodesmata during the defense. This is an exciting 3-yr research project newly funded by the National Science Foundation, U. S. A. The successful candidate will work with the team to investigate how chloroplast-generated immune signals may be delivered to plasmodesmata to regulate molecular movement between cells. The research involves the use of state-of-the-art imaging instruments hosted at the Bioimaging Center in the institute and various approaches using molecular and cell biology and genetics.

The successful candidate must have a BS at a minimum to qualify and meet the admission requirement of the University of Delaware Graduate College (<https://www.udel.edu/academics/colleges/grad/>). Preference will be given to a candidate with research experience in Biology/Plant Biology, Biochemistry, Molecular/Cell Biology, Genetics, or Plant Pathology. Research experience in DNA cloning, transient gene expression; analyzing plant responses to abiotic or biotic stress; microscopy and cell biology; or Arabidopsis transformation/mutant phenotyping is preferred.

The successful candidate is a highly motivated, proactive, team-oriented member with an excellent academic record, a strong passion for plant research, and proficient communication skills in English. The successful candidate will be provided expert training and education throughout the project and will receive full tuition support and a competitive stipend.

Those candidates interested in applying should contact Prof. Lee for an inquiry about the position or send via email a cover letter, a resume, and a personal statement combined into one PDF document to jylee@udel.edu.