SFI Starting Investigator (SIRG)
Genetics & Biotechnology Lab, Plant & AgriBiosciences Research Centre (PABC), Ryan Institute for Sustainable Development, National University of Ireland Galway
*Application deadline: January 19th, 2018*

The Genetics & Biotechnology Lab of Prof. Charles Spillane at the National University of Ireland Galway invites expressions of interest (EoI) from talented candidates who are interested to apply between January-March 2018 for a Science Foundation Ireland SFI Starting Investigator Research Grant (SIRG) which (if application is successful) can be hosted in Prof. Spillane’s research lab from end of 2018 onwards.

The SFI Starting Investigator Research Grant (SIRG) Programme aims to support excellent postdoctoral researchers and others who are yet to hold an independent research post in taking the initial steps towards a fully independent research career.

http://www.sfi.ie/funding/funding-calls/sirg/index.xml

The SFI SIRG Award provides a contribution to the salary for the Starting Investigator (SI) and also provides funding for a postgraduate student, who will be primarily supervised by the SI. The SI will work with Prof. Spillane as an associated mentor, who will provide the necessary support and lab infrastructure for the project to take place.

Prof. Spillane’s lab is particularly interested in hosting an SFI SIRG Awardee whose research is synergistic with ongoing research in the Spillane Lab (www.spillanelab.org). Researchers with a strong track record in Arabidopsis and related species, and with strong skills in areas such as genetics, epigenetics, bioinformatics, phenomics, model organisms, and/or synthetic biology are particularly encouraged to submit EoIs. Research topics which combine fundamental science with possible application routes are encouraged. As a SIRG Mentor, Prof. Spillane will work closely with the selected candidate to prepare their SIRG 2018 application.

Only candidates that meet the following criteria should submit EoIs:

1. Researcher has between three and eight years experience beyond the official award of their PHD.
2. Researcher has never previously held an independent research position of any kind where they were primarily responsible for a research team and its financial support.
(3) Researcher must be senior author (first, last or corresponding) on at least three high impact primary research articles (that is, not reviews nor other secondary research articles) in international peer-reviewed publications, and have a strong citations profile commensurate with career stage.

(4) The researcher must not hold or have held a significant, independent internationally peer reviewed research award of greater than one-year duration. In addition, this previous award must not have had a total value in excess of €100,000 (or equivalent) direct costs. Personal awards, including student and postdoctoral fellowships, travel awards, and bursaries of greater than one-year duration are permissible, so long as their value was no greater than €100,000 per annum.

(5) Researcher must not hold a faculty position at the time of application.

In relation to (1) allowances will be made for documented leave, including maternity leave, paternity leave, parental leave, military service, sick/disability leave, time spent in industry and carer’s leave.

Candidates who are interested to apply for an SFI SIRG Award from Prof. Spillane’s lab should send a brief EoI email along with a CV (indicating contact details for three referees) to: charles.spillane@nuigalway.ie before Friday 19th January 2018.

Please indicate SFI SIRG 2018 in the email subject line.

Weblinks:
Plant & AgriBiosciences Research Centre (PABC): www.plantagbiosciences.org
SpillaneLab: www.spillanelab.org