Two Master or Ph.D. student positions  
Plant genetics, genomics and bioinformatics

Two Master or Ph.D. student positions are available in the department of Biology at Miami University at Oxford, Ohio, USA. Our research lab uses a combination of comparative and functional genomics, genetics and epigenetics approaches to study the mechanisms underlying structural and functional genomics changes within and between different plant species, with an emphasis on the determination of how transposable elements (TEs) and polyploidy contribute to plant evolution, and the epigenetic regulations and evolution of TEs in the agronomically important crop species. Ongoing projects include:

- Comparative genomics and epigenomics in plant evolution
- Genetic dissection of important agronomic traits in maize
- Epigenetic regulation in soybean and maize

We are looking for highly motivated and enthusiastic graduate students with strong interests in any of the above areas. Students with background in plant biology, genetics, genomics, molecular biology and bioinformatics are highly desired, but not required. Favorable consideration may be given to candidates who have experiences with Linux/Unix system and Python/Perl/R/SAS programming languages. Excellent written and oral communications, as well as strong computational skills, are required.

Successful applicants will receive tuition waivers and at least two years of support as research assistants and are guaranteed teaching assistantships throughout their graduate studies.

To apply, please send your Curriculum Vitae, a cover letter which explains your research interests and experiences, and contact information for three references to Dr. Meixia Zhao (zhaom15@miamioh.edu). Please also check other basic requirements such as TOEFL and GRE scores for the graduate study in the Department of Biology at Miami University. Please include “Student application plus name” in the subject line when you apply for this position.

Positions will remain open until filled. In addition to this, postdocs, visiting scholars or students are all welcome to join the lab.

The Department of Biology is one of the largest departments at Miami University. Research and teaching are supported by outstanding core facilities, the Center for Bioinformatics and Functional Genomics, the Miami RedHawk High Performance Computing Cluster, the Center for Advanced Microscopy and Imaging, and a Laboratory Animal Resources Center. Miami University is a top-ranked public university for its commitment to excellence in both undergraduate and graduate education.