We have TWO openings, one post-doc and one PhD student, in the lab of Tomo Kawashima at University of Kentucky to study molecular and cellular dynamics of endosperm development. The endosperm is a part of the seed and performs unique cellular processes such as nuclear divisions without cytokinesis and cellularization, providing us a great platform to investigate plant cellular dynamics as well as how endosperm development affects the final seed size. Successful candidates will use live-imaging, genetics, genomics, and biochemical approaches, to investigate (i) how plants control cytoskeleton dynamics in the multinuclear endosperm and (ii) how altered endosperm development affects subsequent seed development. The candidates will actively participate in collaborations within the US as well as with Japan to perform high-impact science through this project.

To learn more about the Kawashima lab: https://kawashimalab.ca.uky.edu

These positions are funded by NSF for 3 years, with a possible extension, contingent upon performance and funding, and can start October 1st, 2019.

Qualifications for a PhD student position:
• B.S. in Science [If you already have a M.S. degree, M.S. degree credits (18 maximum) can be recognized toward PhD degree credits in our PhD program]
• The minimum TOEFL score is 550 (paper-based) 213 (computer-based), or 79 (internet-based), if you are from a non-English spoken country
• GRE score is NOT required upon submission of your application
• Basic molecular biology knowledge and bench work experience
• Interest in plant molecular biology and reproduction
• Strong motivation and willingness to learn new techniques

Qualifications for a post doc position:
• PhD in molecular, cell, or developmental biology, biochemistry, or related disciplines (scientists who received a PhD within 2-3 years or fresh graduates are encouraged to apply)
• Experience in confocal microscopy, genomics (SNP identification/RNA-seq/ChIP-seq), and/or actin filament biochemical assays is preferable, but not required
• Ability to think critically and innovatively, and write manuscripts for publication
• Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to work well independently and within a group

To apply, please send:
• A cover letter summarizing your research interests, career goals, potential start date, & your motivation to join the Kawashima Lab
• CV
• Contact information of three references
to Tomo Kawashima (tomo.k@uky.edu).