PhD position in plant metabolic biology and biomass of trees

We are looking for a highly motivated PhD student to join our research on plant metabolism, carbon allocation and cell wall biosynthesis. In this project, you will perform pioneering work to unravel biochemical mechanisms responsible for carbon allocation to wood with the applied goal of increasing biomass accumulation potential of trees. You will use both Arabidopsis and aspen as model systems. You will have the opportunity to be trained in state-of-the-art techniques in plant molecular biology, biochemistry, metabolic flux and cell wall analysis, as well as scientific thinking and writing.

You will be employed as a PhD student for 4 years in the Niittylä group at Umeå Plant Science Center (www.upsc.se). For recent publications related to the PhD project see for example Mahboubi et al. (2013) and (2015) and Rende et al. (2016). UPSC is a leading research institute in experimental plant biology with a friendly and international atmosphere providing a highly stimulating environment for PhD studies. UPSC offers excellent facilities for plant research and a unique set-up to study tree biology.

Umeå is a vibrant university town and the cultural capital of northern Sweden with good access to Stockholm and the rest of the world. Umeå’s location in the Northern boreal forest belt provides excellent opportunities for the nature interested and easy access to different outdoor activities.

Qualifications: You need a degree in plant biology, molecular biology, genetics or biochemistry. Knowledge in molecular biology and biochemistry techniques and/or metabolic flux analysis is a merit and good English is a requirement. In addition, you have an enthusiastic can-do attitude and an enquiring and creative mind.

For more information contact totte.niittyla@slu.se.

For additional information on eligibility and to apply please see: http://www.slu.se/en/education/programmes-courses/postgraduate-studies/new-phd-student/Read-more/?sprak=e&Uid=1158

Application deadline 22.03.2017