University of Delaware, Newark

Position: Postdoctoral Associate in Plant Physiology and Mechanics, Department of Plant and Soil Sciences and the Delaware Biotechnology Institute, Erin Sparks Lab

Start Date: As early as August 2017
Applications Due: June 30, 2017

Position Details
The Erin Sparks laboratory at the University of Delaware is seeking a highly motivated postdoctoral candidate for a project in Plant Physiology and Mechanics. The Sparks lab focuses on understanding the development, morphology, function, and molecular regulation of maize brace roots. Brace roots, which emerge from plant stems above the soil, are proposed to play an important role in structural stability and late-stage nutrient/water acquisition. Yet, how these roots contribute to stability and whole plant physiology remains a poorly understood area of plant biology. This project will systematically determine the function of brace roots in plant stability and physiology. Additional information about the lab environment and PI expectations are outlined in the Sparks Lab Mission and Guidelines.

This position is located at the Delaware Biotechnology Institute (DBI), a multidisciplinary research facility with world-class researchers and core facilities (http://www.dbi.udel.edu). The University of Delaware is located in scenic Newark, DE, an excellent geographic location within two hours of New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, D.C. Postdoctoral salaries and fringe benefits are highly competitive.

Qualifications
Required: A PhD in biology, engineering, or a related field; excellent organization, communication and interpersonal skills; and a record of scientific publication. Applicant must be able to work both independently and with others within a research team. Applicants interested in open science and research transparency are particularly encouraged to apply. Experience in physiology, biochemistry or structural engineering is a plus.

To Apply
The position is available starting in August 2017 and the initial appointment is for 1 year, renewable annually. A renewal of the appointment will be contingent upon success of the research program. To apply, please email as a single PDF: a one-page cover letter, curriculum vitae, and the contact information for at least two references to Erin Sparks at braceroots<at>gmail<dot>com. Please include “Postdoc in Plant Physiology and Mechanics” in the subject of your email.

Employment offers are conditional upon successful completion of a criminal background check. The University of Delaware is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and Title IX institution. For the University’s non-discrimination statement, visit http://www.udel.edu/home/legal-notices/.