



Plant Biology

Franklin College

The **Plant Biology Department at the University of Georgia** is recruiting highly motivated individuals to apply to the graduate program for Fall 2016. Graduate students in our program have the opportunity to perform research in a wide variety of areas in plant and fungal biology, including molecular and cell biology, ecology, evolution, and genomics. Plant Biology graduate students are also given numerous opportunities for professional development related to science writing, teaching, outreach, and mentoring.

For more information on the graduate program and how to apply, see http://www.plantbio.uga.edu/programs/graduate_program. The deadline to apply is December 15, 2015.

The faculty below are actively recruiting graduate students to join their lab.

- **Shu-Mei Chang:** The Chang lab studies evolutionary ecology in plant reproduction. (<http://research.franklin.uga.edu/smchang/>)
- **John Burke:** The Burke lab investigates the genomic basis of adaptation in the sunflower family, with a current emphasis on the evolution of abiotic stress resistance (<http://www.theburkelab.org/>)
- **Kelly Dawe:** The Dawe Lab studies chromosome segregation in maize with particular emphasis on the role of centromeres. (<http://www.dawelab.org/>)
- **Katrien Devos:** The Devos lab uses cutting-edge genomics research to answer applied as well as basic research questions in grasses. Research foci include the identification of genes involved in plant interactions with biotic and abiotic factors and comparative analyses to study the evolution of genes and genomes. PhD projects are available to unravel the molecular mechanisms underlying salt tolerance in seashore paspalum, and to study the genetics of resistance to the blast fungus *Magnaporthe oryzae* in finger millet (<http://research.franklin.uga.edu/devoslab/>)
- **Lisa Donovan:** The Donovan lab studies the ecophysiological, physiological and genetic basis of drought, salt and low nutrient stress responses in wild and cultivated sunflowers. (<http://research.franklin.uga.edu/donovan/>)
- **Chang-Hyun Khang:** The Khang lab studies mechanisms of fungal pathogenicity and plant disease resistance. (<http://www.khanglab.org/>)
- **Jim Leebens-Mack:** The Leebens-Mack lab employs genomic, phylogenetic and experimental analyses to investigate the genetic and ecology processes that influence diversification. (<http://research.franklin.uga.edu/jleebensmack/>)

- **Wolfgang Lukowitz:** The Lukowitz lab studies plant developmental biology and embryonic patterning - identifying the targets of the GATA factor HANABA TARANU by inducible over-expression and knock-downs. (<http://research.franklin.uga.edu/lukowitz/>)

- **Chris Peterson:** The Peterson lab studies forest responses to wind disturbance, carbon cycling in forests, tree strength and wind resistance, and the interaction of forest ecology with meteorology. (<http://research.franklin.uga.edu/cjpeterson/>)

- **Kathrin Stanger-Hall:** The Stanger-Hall lab studies the evolution of communication systems. Our main emphasis is the evolution of light signals in fireflies. This includes signal production, signal reception, and signal transmission through the environment. (<http://research.franklin.uga.edu/stanger-hall/>)

- **Dorset Trapnell:** The Trapnell lab studies evolutionary factors that shape genetic variation in natural plant populations. We are particularly interested in long-distance seed dispersal and colonization which are critical factors for range modification in a changing environment. While I mostly study orchids and epiphytes, a student joining my lab is free to choose his/her own project provided it is compatible with the lab's expertise. (<http://research.franklin.uga.edu/dwtrapnell/>)

- **Zheng-Hua Ye:** The Ye lab studies the molecular dissection of the transcriptional network controlling secondary cell wall biosynthesis. (<http://research.franklin.uga.edu/zhye/>)

- **Xiaoyu Zhang:** The Zhang lab studies epigenetics and chromatin-based regulatory pathways. (<http://research.franklin.uga.edu/xiaoyu/>)

About Athens: Voted multiple times as the number one college town in America, Athens, Georgia at its core is a vibrant and friendly southern city. Though built around the university, Athens is not defined by UGA and offers a world-famous music scene, progressive culinary tastes, contemporary art and a diverse nightlife. Both the University and its host community have benefited from the active involvement of people who care deeply about this place and from a quality of life that students, visitors and year-round residents relish. With its southern charm and eclectic style, Athens, GA is not only a great place to live; it's a place we love to call home. (<http://www.visitathensga.com/>).

If you have questions, feel free to contact our graduate coordinator:

Chris Peterson, Graduate Coordinator

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