

PhD candidate (w/m)

Plant molecular and Cellular biology

Job description

A SNSF **PhD student position** is available to study the "Dynamics of the Light Harvesting Complex network". The project, led by Dr. Paolo Longoni, is hosted in the Plant Physiology Lab at the University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland. Efficient use of the light is essential for the fitness of photosynthetic organisms. The evolution of an antenna network system, capable of dynamic regulation of the fraction of light energy to be transferred to the photosystems and to dissipate light excess is a key step in the evolution of photosynthetic eukaryotes and a crucial step in land colonization. Our research focus on understanding the network of interactions between the proteins of the thylakoid membrane, in particular those of the light harvesting complex, which allows coping with the changes in light quality and regime exploiting the model organisms *Arabidopsis thaliana*. The research includes aspects of molecular biology, chloroplast and plant biochemistry and biophysics of the photosynthesis and is conducted in collaboration with European Universities and research institutes.

We offer an exciting research position in a very timely topic connected to photosynthesis improvement and plant acclimation to changing environment. More information about this project can be found at:

<https://www.unine.ch/physiologievegetale/en/home/recherche/dynamics-of-the-light-harvesting.html>

The student will also have the opportunity to enroll in the training program proposed by the Interuniversity Doctoral Program in Organismal Biology (<http://www2.unine.ch/dp-biol/welcome/introduction>).

Candidate Profile

Candidate is a highly motivated student holding a Master Degree in Biology or Biotechnology (or equivalent degree), with a good theoretical and practical background in cellular and molecular biology. Previous experience in Plant Biology is preferable but not strictly required. The ideal candidate is proactive, has good communication and team working skills, but is also capable to work independently. Good skills in spoken and written English are expected, spoken and written French is a plus but not required.

Paolo Longoni
Maître Assistant
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Starting date

By agreement, ideally in June 2018

Applications

Applications (including CV, cover letter, and name, address and phone contact of at least two referees) should be sent as a single PDF file to: paolo.longoni@unine.ch

FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES

Review of applications will begin immediately and the applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Institut de biologie

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