

Postdoctoral opportunity: the diversity of insect microbiomes

at the Institute of Environmental Sciences at Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland

The Symbiosis Evolution Research Group (www.symbio.eko.uj.edu.pl) at the Institute of Environmental Sciences of Jagiellonian University (www.eko.uj.edu.pl) in Kraków, Poland is **looking to hire a Postdoctoral Researcher**. This is a full-time position, funded by the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange (NAWA) project *Insect Microbiomics*, and the Polish National Science Center (NCN) project *Insect microbiome dynamics in time and space*. **The position is available from 1st October 2020, for 33 months.**

The Postdoc will join a dynamic, multi-lingual, collaborative team aiming to describe the broad patterns of the microbial diversity across insects, and the dynamics of the insect microbiomes in time and space. The work will be conducted in close collaboration with a massive insect biodiversity project, Insect Biome Atlas (www.insectbiomeatlas.com) that does extensive insect community sampling and characterization in Sweden and Madagascar. The Postdoc will work on the implementation and testing of protocols for high-throughput, automated next-generation sequencing (NGS) library preparation in the context of insect microbiome studies, as well as develop bioinformatic pipelines for the analysis of the resulting data. Later, they will lead the microbiome characterization in extensive collections of insects from Sweden, Madagascar, and/or Greenland.

The Postdoc will be based at one of the top research institutes in the fields of Ecology and Evolution in Central Europe, in a medieval city known as the cultural capital of Poland, with good access to outdoor recreation opportunities and well-connected to the rest of Europe. They will be encouraged to spend time in the laboratories of collaborators from the Insect Biome Atlas project in Sweden and engage in other international collaborations. We offer a competitive salary relative to the cost of living, flexible schedules, extensive opportunities to acquire cutting-edge research skills, and to network, as well as to expand the project according to interests.

The candidates must have a Ph.D. in Biological Sciences or a related field, or anticipate the completion of doctoral studies by 30th September 2020. They should be able to demonstrate experience with molecular biology techniques and bioinformatic analyses of NGS data and be fluent in English. An ideal candidate will be able to demonstrate interest and scientific achievements related to the planned project, in particular regarding the diversity and biology of host-microbe interactions and the analysis of microbial communities using NGS. Laboratory experience in the preparation of NGS libraries, familiarity with the Linux / Unix shell and scripting languages such as Python / Perl / R, and interest in participating in international collaborations and research travel preferred.

The candidates are initially asked to submit a cover letter, a CV, and contact details of two references, to Dr. Piotr Łukasik (p.lukasik@uj.edu.pl).

Deadline for submitting applications expires on 17th July 2020

The competition will be concluded by 31st July 2020

For further information, informal inquiries and the list of other documents and forms necessary for the recruitment process, please contact Dr. Piotr Łukasik.