

## Position Announcement

### Ph.D. student, Molecular Plant Pathology/Nematology

#### Department of Plant Pathology, Washington State University, Pullman, WA

A position for a Ph.D. student is open to conduct research on molecular interactions between the Columbia root-knot nematode (*Meloidogyne chitwoodi*) and its host plants. Position responsibilities and duties include: design and execution of experiments; data analysis; preparation of manuscripts; presentation of results at meetings. Research projects may include molecular techniques (e.g., PCR; real-time PCR; DNA, RNA and protein purification; DNA cloning; gel electrophoresis; sequencing; western, Southern and northern blotting); microarray experiments; microscopy; plant tissue culture and greenhouse work. Applicant must be willing to learn additional techniques and problem solve as needed. For more information, please visit <http://plantpath.wsu.edu/people/faculty/elling.htm>

**Required Qualifications:** An M.S. in plant pathology, plant science, molecular genetics, nematology or a related field. A strong demonstrated background in molecular techniques and plant molecular biology is essential. Applicant must have an interest in molecular plant-microbe interactions and the ability to work in a team including interdisciplinary collaborators. The successful candidate is expected to have excellent oral and written communication skills and to be able to work independently. Applicant must have excellent record keeping abilities and be able to manage multiple experimental approaches simultaneously. Prior experience in nematology is an advantage, but not required.

**Availability:** Fall semester 2010.

**Application:** Applicants should email Dr. Axel Elling directly ([elling@wsu.edu](mailto:elling@wsu.edu)) to indicate their interest in this position. Applicants have to follow the departmental guidelines to apply to the plant pathology graduate program and to the Graduate School at Washington State University <http://plantpath.wsu.edu/students/appcheck.html> Financial support in the form of a research assistantship (incl. health insurance, tuition waiver and other benefits) will be provided. For more information please visit <http://plantpath.wsu.edu/students/prostudents.htm>

**University and Community:** Washington State University (WSU), the state's land grant university, provides world-class education to more than 25,000 students statewide. Plant research at the University is consistently ranked among the top five nationwide in terms of research productivity. The University's plant researchers are among the most highly cited in the world according to ISI Highly Cited Researchers List. WSU's main campus is located in Pullman, a college town of about 27,000. Together with the University of Idaho, eight miles to the east in Moscow, ID, the region provides diverse cultural and intellectual activities for a combined community of more than 50,000 people.

EEO/AA/ADA