

Ph.D. position in Plant Evolutionary Ecology Department of Plant and Microbial Biology North Carolina State University

The Sheth evolutionary ecology lab invites applications for a Ph.D. position beginning in Fall 2020. We study the ecological and evolutionary processes underlying species climatic niches and geographic ranges, with the aim of understanding evolutionary and plastic responses to climatic changes. Primarily using monkeyflowers as a model system, we combine field, greenhouse, and growth chamber experiments, quantitative genetics, and comparative analyses to examine constraints to adaptation in plant populations, species, and clades.

NC State's Department of Plant and Microbial Biology offers a highly-rated research environment and is situated in a collaborative and scientifically stimulating atmosphere in the Research Triangle, with both UNC Chapel Hill and Duke University nearby. There is a vibrant and growing community of ecologists and evolutionary biologists spread across multiple departments on campus, including Applied Ecology, Biology, Entomology and Plant Pathology, Forestry and Environmental Resources, Soil and Crop Sciences, and Biochemistry, among others. Raleigh is a lively yet affordable city with a high standard of living, and its surroundings offer numerous recreational activities.

We are looking for a highly motivated student with a keen interest in plant evolutionary ecology. Thesis projects can be tied into ongoing research in the lab or developed according to mutual interests. Interested students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with our research and publications at www.seemasheth.weebly.com.

TO APPLY: Graduate students have the option of applying to the Plant Biology Graduate Program or the Biology Graduate Program with a concentration in Ecology and Evolution, and are typically funded through a combination of teaching and research assistantships. Before submitting a formal application (due January 15), please send the following information to Dr. Sheth at Seema_Sheth@ncsu.edu no later than November 1: 1) CV; and 2) a statement of your academic background and previous research experience, current research interests, and why you want to join the lab.