



Department of Plant Biology
Uppsala, Sweden

Postdoctoral position in plant small RNA mobility

Mobility of small RNAs in plants: small RNAs are the central components of RNA silencing in plants which provide sequence specificity for an extensive regulative layer in gene expression. This machinery is especially known for its role in defense against selfish nucleic acids including viruses and transposons, but it is also involved in the regulation of plant endogenous genes. Our current project is particularly interested in the role of intercellular and transgenerational mobility of small RNAs and associated regulation. One planned approach will be to utilize virus diversity for studying small RNA mobility, including antiviral defence and viral system interference, in conjunction with extensive small RNA profiling. We emphasize, however, that the project is highly explorative and the detailed research strategies are open to tailoring towards the hired postdoctoral researcher's expertise and interest as well as other ongoing projects in the lab. An essential part of the work will be (small) RNAseq analysis, and likely also include genetics, biochemical and cell biological approaches using *Arabidopsis* as the primary plant model.

Environment: The successful applicant will work in the research group of Dr. Anders Hafren <https://andershafren.wixsite.com/website>) at the Department of Plant Biology, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) (www.slu.se/en/vbsg) and Linnean Centre for Plant Biology in Uppsala, Sweden (<http://lcpu.se/>). The department offers a creative and stimulating international environment and is one of several departments that make up the cluster 'Uppsala BioCenter' at SLU.

Qualifications: We are looking for a highly motivated candidate with a fairly recent PhD degree in molecular biology with experience in (small) RNA biology and RNA deep sequencing analysis and related topics. Documented abilities to manage a laboratory research project and experience with molecular biology techniques in plants are required. Knowledge of genetic, biochemical, cell biological and/or proteomic approaches and pathogen handling in *Arabidopsis*/plant systems is highly valued. Excellent communication skills in both oral and written English and the ability to work in a team are expected.

Employment: The postdoctoral position is financed by a grant from the Knut and Alice Wallenberg foundation and is initially for 2 years with possibility for extension.

Starting date: By agreement, ideally beginning of 2022.

Applications: Applications are immediately welcome and will be considered until the position is filled.

Applications including (1) *Curriculum Vitae*, (2) description of research experiences, (3) statement of scientific interests and motivation for applying to this position, and (4) contact information of 2 referees should be sent as single pdf file to:

https://web103.reachmee.com/ext/I017/1114/job?site=7&lang=UK&validator=87e4b706891e51f731ed44be28da8352&ref=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.slu.se%2Fen%2F&job_id=5541

Direct inquiries regarding the position can be sent to: anders.hafren@slu.se