Position Summary

The Forest Ecosystems and Society Department invites applications for a full-time (1.0 FTE), 12-month, fixed term Research Associate (Post Doc) position. Reappointment is at the discretion of the Department Head.

This Research Associate (Post Doc) position focuses on quantitative genetics and genomics. The incumbent will work with geneticists, breeders, and the Pacific Northwest Tree Improvement Research Cooperative (PNWTIRC) to develop genomic resources for Douglas-fir and western white pine, design strategies for increasing the efficiency of genomic selection, develop a SNP genetic map for Douglas-fir, understand the quantitative genetics blister rust resistance in western white pine, and use phenotypic and climate data to design strategies for practicing assisted migration. To accomplish these objectives, the incumbent will manage genomics and other forest genetics data, conduct data analyses using existing software, write computer programs to analyze data, communicate research results orally and in writing, and perform administration duties as assigned. The incumbent will have substantial opportunities to publish journal articles with colleagues.

Position Duties

60% – Use existing software and write computer programs to conduct quantitative genetic analyses of phenotypic data, conduct bioinformatic analyses, and simulate and analyze genomics data.

35% – Summarize and interpret research results, communicate research results orally and in writing, and lead or contribute to journal publications, conference presentations, and research reports.

5% – Perform administrative and other duties as assigned, such as assisting with the preparation of research proposals or assisting with lab and field work.

Minimum/Required Qualifications

PhD in quantitative genetics, statistical genomics, or closely related field. Competence and experience in quantitative genetics, bioinformatics, and genomic analysis sufficient to carry out research in collaboration with others at OSU.

Experience programming in languages such as R, Perl, Python, C#, Java, and Fortran.

Experience conducting statistical analyses in R, SAS, or ASReml.

Excellent verbal and written communication skills in English.

Demonstrated ability to work in a team to achieve common goals.

This position is designated as a critical or security-sensitive position; therefore, the incumbent must successfully complete a criminal history check and be determined to be position qualified as per OSU Standard 576-055-0000 et seq. Incumbents are required to self-report convictions and those in youth programs may have additional criminal history checks every 24 months.

Preferred (Special) Qualifications

Training or research experience in plant biology and plant breeding, preferably with trees.

Experience with mixed-model statistical analyses and machine-learning approaches such as Random Forest.

Experience working in a Linux environment.

A demonstrated commitment to promoting and enhancing diversity.

Please apply through the OSU webpage jobs.oregonstate.edu using posting number P03457U. Applicants must submit a CV and a cover letter, along with three professional references. If you have any questions about this position, please contact Glenn.Howe@oregonstate.edu.