



## **Graduate Student Funding Available**

### **Illinois Natural History Survey University of Illinois**

Research support is available for graduate study in the biology and monitoring of bat white nose syndrome (WNS) beginning either May 15 or August 15, 2012 at the Illinois Natural History Survey. The study will focus on the characterization of fungal communities on bats and in hibernation sites during the WNS invasion. This project is part of a fungal inventory of caves and mines throughout Illinois and emphasizes training in: 1) the diverse methods of traditional collections-based research, 2) culture techniques and identification of soil fungi, 3) the development and management of digital information tools, and 4) the application of molecular sequencing techniques and phylogenetic analyses. This project will contain both a laboratory and fieldwork component. Desirable qualities include a willingness to work in a group dynamic setting and explore a variety of research questions related to bat and fungal ecology. Support includes a full RA stipend (\$20,000 per year) and tuition waiver for 2 years including summers. The successful candidate will join a multidisciplinary group of researchers including two mammalogists, a mycologist, a microbial ecologist, a wildlife veterinary epidemiologist, and a cave biologist. The Illinois Natural History Survey is part of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). Students should apply either to the Department of Plant Biology at UIUC (<http://www.life.illinois.edu/plantbio/>) or the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences (<http://nres.illinois.edu/>). For more information, please contact Andrew Miller [amiller7@illinois.edu; (217) 244-0439] at the Illinois Natural History Survey, 1909 South Oak Street, Champaign, IL 61820.