Title: Postdoctoral Position in Fungal (Macrofungi) Biodiversity

About us: The Chicago Botanic Garden’s Negaunee Institute for Plant Conservation Science and Action is a global leader in plant and fungal research, education, and engagement to sustain and enrich life. We value diversity, equity, and inclusion in all its forms and at every level of our organization, and are committed to ensuring a sense of belonging to every individual, regardless of age, race, gender, ethnicity, religious, sexual orientation, ability, or economic status.

Position Overview: The Negaunee Institute is searching for a post doc to participate in a project led by Greg Mueller focused on macrofungal diversity and distribution patterns of southern neotropical montane Quercus forests (Costa Rica, Panama, and Colombia). Efforts will include barcoding specimens from past field work, undertaking fieldwork to obtain sporocarps and environmental samples, and working with Mueller, in-country collaborators, and other partners on analyzing and publishing the results of this work. Another goal of the funding is to enhance synergies between the Garden and Field Museum, so the post doc will split their time between the two institutions interacting with staff and students. The position is funded for 2 years, but could be extended if funding is secured.

Responsibilities:
1. RESEARCH: Participate in all aspects of the research project including barcoding specimens from past field work, undertaking fieldwork to obtain sporocarps and environmental samples, and publishing results of this work. Anticipated results include new species, taxonomic revisions of selected taxa, and analyses of diversity and geographic patterns.
2. TRAINING: Help mentor graduate students in the Mueller lab and those of in-country collaborators.
3. INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE: Contribute to Garden and departmental initiatives.
4. OUTREACH: As appropriate, contribute to outreach, citizen science, and other engagement activities.

Key Cooperative Relationships: Chicago Botanic Garden and Field Museum staff, students, and volunteers; collaborators in Costa Rica, Colombia, and Panama; and regional, national, and international mycological and conservation communities.

Qualifications: Ph.D. in mycology with a focus and experience in biodiversity studies or equivalent with appropriate experience. Strong molecular systematics and / or environmental sampling skills.

To Apply: Please go to https://www.chicagobotanic.org/jobs to apply. In addition to the Garden application materials, please submit a cover letter, c.v., and contact information for three references. Review of applications begins April 6, 2020 and will continue until suitable candidates are hired. Contact Greg Mueller with any questions.

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