



The [Plant Evolutionary Ecology](#) group at the [University of Tübingen](#) invites applications for a

## PhD position in ecological plant epigenetics

which will be part of the Marie Curie training network [EpiDiverse](#), a cross-European training program on ecological plant epigenetics. The goal of the advertised project will be to study epigenetic variation, and its stability and ecological significance, in the annual plant *Thlaspi arvense*. The student will conduct field work and a garden experiment, and will analyse DNA methylation variation to assess epigenetic population structure and relationships between epigenetic and environmental variation. The project will be in close collaboration with the group of Claude Becker at the Gregor Mendel Institute in Vienna. More infos [here](#).

A unique aspect of this PhD project is the breadth of the training that the student will receive, and the network that this training will be embedded in. Besides training in field and experimental ecology, and the central EpiDiverse courses and summer schools, there will be several longer stays ('secondments') in different European labs to learn bioinformatic and statistical methods for epigenome analyses. The student will be part of a group of 15 PhD students from across Europe that will all work on similar questions, and that will regularly meet and interact.

We seek an enthusiastic biologist with a background in molecular ecology or (epi)genetics, and a keen interest in working at the interface between these two disciplines. Experience with NGS technologies and/or bioinformatics are a plus. A high standard of spoken and written English is required, as are good quantitative/analytical thinking, good interpersonal and communication skills, and the ability to work independently and as part of a team.

The position is funded for 3 years and will be a temporary appointment as 'EU researcher'. Starting date will be 1 April 2018. The University seeks to raise the number of women in research and teaching and therefore urges qualified women academics to apply for these positions. Equally qualified applicants with disabilities will be given preference.

The University of Tübingen is one of the oldest universities in Germany, and Tübingen a beautiful university town with a high quality of life.

This is a Marie Curie position, for which specific mobility rules apply. More information, and instructions on how to apply, are on this webpage: <https://nioo.knaw.nl/en/vacancies-epidiverse>.

If you have further questions, please contact Oliver Bossdorf ([oliver.bossdorf@uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:oliver.bossdorf@uni-tuebingen.de)).



**POP BIO: several PhD positions in training network on ecological plant epigenetics**

Dear PopBios,

there is a new Marie Curie training network on ecological plant epigenetics, called EpiDiverse, which is inviting applications for a total of 15 PhD positions! Several of these are at the interface of plant ecology and molecular epigenetics, so they are suitable for PopBio people with an interest in ecological epigenetics, and with at least some previous experience with molecular methods. The more ecologically oriented positions are at the Universities of Marburg and Tübingen in Germany, at the Institute of Botany of the Czech Academy of Sciences in Pruhonice, and at Estacion Donana in Sevilla, Spain. All positions will start on 1 April 2018.

Doing a PhD in the EpiDiverse network will be unique: All PhD students will be trained in ecology, molecular epigenetics and bioinformatics; all will participate in joint courses and summer schools, and each of them will do longer stays ('secondments') in two different European labs to learn new methods. The 15 students will all work on related questions and will regularly meet and interact.

More information about the network, individual positions and project leaders, and the application procedure, can be found on the EpiDiverse website: <https://nioo.knaw.nl/en/epidiverse>. An important rule for PhD candidates in a Marie Curie training network is that they must not have lived in the country where they apply for more than 12 months during the previous 3 years, i.e. these positions are essentially for students who are ready to move to another country!

If you know people who might be interested in some of these PhD positions, then it would be great if you could forward this information to them!

Best regards, Oliver