International PhD studentships

Two 4-year international PhD scholarships are available for top students to work with WA Scientist of the Year and ARC Laureate Fellow Professor Ian Small at the University of Western Australia in Perth. Prospective candidates can be from Australia or overseas, should be capable of meeting UWA's English language requirements and willing to start soon after December 1st, 2014.

The research projects will be connected with Professor Small’s fellowship project entitled ‘Controlling gene expression with synthetic RNA-binding proteins’ and will build on the group’s recent progress in understanding how pentatricopeptide repeat (PPR) proteins recognise and bind target RNAs. The projects could include the study of natural PPR proteins and/or the design and testing of synthetic PPR proteins for applications in agriculture or human health. Both bioinformatics and wet lab approaches are used within the group and prospective PhD candidates can have specialised in computational biology, biochemistry, molecular biology or genetics.

The research will be carried out in the labs of the ARC Centre of Excellence in Plant Energy Biology within the Bayliss Building, the state-of-the-art centrepiece for molecular sciences on UWA's main campus.

If you are interested, please contact Ian Small (ian.small@uwa.edu.au) as soon as possible.

Some relevant references:

