Ph.D. Graduate Assistantship
Application of Phenomics and Genomics in Camelina Breeding
Washington State University, Pullman, WA

Description of Research Opportunity:
This project will enhance our ability to develop successful camelina cultivars by applying the new technologies of phenomics and genomics. In order for new camelina cultivars to be successful, they must have high oil content and early vigor. The goal of this project is to use GWAS to identify genomic regions controlling these two traits in camelina, as well as overall yield potential. Students will use high-throughput phenotyping to evaluate early vigor and oil content, as well as the latest genomic technology to identify associated genomic regions. Students will then use this information to select breeding lines for these traits, thereby leading to new cultivars for release to growers. This assistantship also offers a great opportunity for flexibility in experiencing and exploring the broad research fields of genomics and phenomics.

Desired Qualifications:
Background related to biology, crop science, plant breeding, or genetics, with an interest in applied field based plant breeding and genetics.

Contact:
Please contact Dr. Arron Carter for more details about this opportunity. He can be reached at ahcarter@wsu.edu. He will also be at WSU’s booth at the ASA Graduate Student Forum (Table 19) on Monday, Nov. 16th, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm and Nov. 17th from 3:00 to 4:00 pm.

Apply:
Interested persons may apply through either the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences (CSS) or the Molecular Plant Sciences (MPS) programs. Please visit CSS at http://css.wsu.edu or MPS at http://mps.wsu.edu. These websites provide details about the application requirements and links to the online application. The priority application deadline for Fall 2016 term is January 10, 2016.

Assistantship Details: Graduate assistantships are formal half-time, academic-year appointments accompanied by a summer stipend, with an annual estimated total of $19,700. Graduate assistants are also provided tuition waivers, as well comprehensive health (medical/dental) insurance. Qualifying recruits may be nominated by the program director for prestigious ARCS fellowship which provides $17,500 award in addition to the research assistantship.