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

Description of Research Opportunity:
This project will enhance our ability to develop successful winter wheat cultivars by applying the new technologies of phenomics and genomics, thereby leading to enhanced sustainability of wheat production. Past students have identified genomic regions and spectral reflection indices which are associated with successful wheat cultivars. Current students will apply this knowledge to the USDA and WSU field based wheat breeding program to begin selecting germplasm for advancement in the program and ultimate release to wheat producers. Students will also apply phenomics and genomics to a selected genetic population to identify additional methods for selection. 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.