M.S. Graduate Assistantship
Soft Kernel Durum Wheat-Global and Local Food Sustainability
Washington State University, Pullman, WA

Description of Research Opportunity:
This project involves integrated cross-disciplinary research encompassing Crop Genetics and Food Science. Durum wheat is tolerant of heat, drought and pests, but its production has been limited by its culinary uses. Kernel softness and gluten-related genes will be introgressed into elite durum wheat germplasm to improve processing and food applications. Farm-to-Fork and global market models are developed. This NIFA-funded research includes collaborators at CIMMYT and U.S. public/private wheat breeding.

 Desired Qualifications:
Education and experience related to crop genetics, breeding, food science, cereal chemistry, biology or plant science. Keen interest in integrated food systems, domestic and international.

 Contact:
Please contact Dr. Craig F. Morris (morrisc@wsu.edu) or Dr. Alecia Kiszonas (alecia.kiszonas@ars.usda.gov), USDA-ARS Western Wheat Quality Lab, located at Washington State University (http://wwql.wsu.edu). Craig will be at the Plant and Animal Genome (PAG) Meeting. Please e-mail to arrange a meeting.

 Apply:
Interested persons may apply through either the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences (CSS) or the School of Food Science. Please visit CSS at http://css.wsu.edu or SFS at http://sfs.wsu.edu. The priority application deadline for Fall 2016 term is January 10, 2016. Funding for Summer 2016 is available.

 Assistantship Details: Graduate assistantships are formal half-time, academic-year appointments accompanied by a summer stipend, with an annual estimated total of $18,480. Graduate assistants are also provided tuition waivers, as well comprehensive health (medical/dental) insurance.