PD fellowship opportunity: Landscape genetics of Brazilian northeastern Atlantic Forest birds

The Thematic Project "Evaluation, recovering, and conservation of the endangered fauna of the Pernambuco Center of Endemism", financed by FAPESP (São Paulo Research Foundation) and coordinated by Dr. Luís Fábio Silveira (MUZUSP, São Paulo), offers a postdoctoral fellowship for a foreign or Brazilian candidate, who has completed a doctorate not more than six years before the start of the scholarship, to attend the sub-project "Landscape genetics in areas of the Center of Endemism Pernambuco (CEP)", under supervision of Dr. Mercival Roberto Francisco, from Universidade Federal de São Carlos, campus de Sorocaba, São Paulo state, Brazil.

The specific objectives are to apply molecular markers to perform genetic variability and gene flow analyses of birds from six Atlantic Forest fragments from Alagoas state, northeastern Brazil, and to correlate genetic metrics to species and landscape characteristics.

This opportunity is open to highly qualified Brazilians and foreigners. It is essential the candidate to have experience and independency to perform both field and laboratorial works, as well as statistical analyses and manuscript preparations. The field work involves capturing birds with the use of mist nets; indentifying and marking the individuals, and collecting blood samples. It requires capability to drive to the study areas and to interact and communicate with local people, that can be hired as field assistants. Laboratory work will involve DNA extraction, and the development and analyses of molecular markers, such as microsatellites and SNPS. To achieve these purposes, the candidate must be available to live from eight to 12 months in Alagoas state to perform the field work (in the first year), and to perform the laboratorial analyses at Sorocaba, São Paulo State, Brazil (Department of Environmental Sciences from Universidade Federal de São Carlos, campus de Sorocaba). The selected candidate will be involved in the planning and execution of the research activities mentioned in this notice and will also work in the administration of the laboratory and co-orientation of graduate and undergraduate students.

Values and conditions:

The scholarship lasts 36 months and includes:

- 1. Monthly income (free of taxes) of R\$ 7,373.10 (Brazilian currency), plus 15% of the annual value for expenses related to research (Technical Reserve);
- Financial support for travel and installation expenses may be requested for selected applicants and the merits will be analyzed by FAPESP upon acceptance of the concession;
- 3. The candidate must have completed a doctorate not more than six years before the start of the scholarship; before the start of the scholarship;
- 4. The scholarship requires full dedication to the research project (except under the conditions described in resolution PR 13/2009 of July 15, 2009);
- 5. The grantee may not have any formal or informal employment, nor receive, during the period of the fellowship, a scholarship from another entity, salary or remuneration derived from the exercise of activities of any nature.
- For the implementation of the scholarship the selected candidate must present all the documentation required by FAPESP.

For complete fellowship rules, go to: http://www.fapesp.br/270

How to apply:

The submission deadline is 20 July 2020. Registration exclusively by email (mercival@ufscar.br), with the subject "Post-doctoral ARCA project". The following documentation, all in PDF format, is required:

- 1. An English text with a maximum of 2 pages explaining your motivations to work on this project;
- 2. Summarized CV including all published papers in the area of the project;
- 3. Two letters of recommendation from researchers;
- 4. Document attesting PhD/Doctorate conclusion (Diploma).

Selection

The selection of the applicants presenting the complete documentation will be made based on candidate's numbers and quality of publications in the area of the project (ornithology and/or population genetics), and an interview. Only publications on scientific journals will be considered, and the values attributed to each publication will be 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, or 2.5 depending on Journal most recent impact factors (0.1-0.5; 0.6-1.0; 1.1-1.5, 1.6-2.0, and > 2.0, respectively). In case of multiple candidates, only the top five ranked applicants based on curriculum analysis will be invited to the interview (via Skype). In the interview, the capacity of communication in English and/or Portuguese; the past experience in the areas of the project, as well as the availability to develop the project will be addressed, and results of this step can imply in the disqualification of the candidate.

The result of the selection will be informed by email to all of the applicants, and we will offer the opportunity for the result to be contested within five days after its divulgation.

In case of incapacity to develop any part of the project, the fellow can be changed at any time during the development of the project.

The selected candidate must submit the necessary documents for the FAPESP scholarship application within 15 days after approval.

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