Ph.D. position - Arthropod Biodiversity

The Caterino Arthropod Biodiversity Lab at Clemson University will have an opening for a doctoral student starting in Summer or Fall 2020. A Master’s must have been obtained by May 2019. The student will work as part of a team in the NSF-funded 'Litter Arthropods of High Appalachia' project, a collaboration between Clemson and Virginia Tech University. The project will utilize high-throughput metabarcoding to study diversification patterns in arthropods occurring in the leaf litter on the high peaks of southern Appalachia.

The Ph.D. project will carve out a set of lineages (Coleoptera preferred) from these communities for detailed phylogenetic and taxonomic analyses, likely integrating other sources of data such as morphology and targeted sequencing of additional markers. The carabid genus *Trechus* is a particularly interesting possibility, with numerous short-range endemics in the higher parts of the region.

Interested candidates should have a strong background in evolutionary and systematic entomology, as well as familiarity with relevant field and laboratory methods. Prospective students will have to qualify for admission to the Entomology graduate program in the Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences. Applicants should include a prospective project proposal that fits with the larger project’s aims within their application for admission. The successful candidate will be funded for up to three years, starting at USD$20,000/yr (plus tuition waiver).

Interested students are encouraged to contact Dr. Caterino for more information at mcateri@clemson.edu.

https://sites.google.com/site/caterinolab/opportunities