**Funded PhD position at University College Dublin**

**Title: The Evolutionary Developmental Genetics of Bony Fish Tooth Diversity**

**Project Description:** Salmon, sticklebacks, cichlids, and other bony fishes exhibit incredible diversity in their trophic apparatus. Understanding the mechanisms driving this diversity should allow us to understand how the trophic apparatus facilitates ecological diversification. This position will leverage bioinformatic analyses of gene expression and genome level comparisons to unravel how trophic adaptations and novel feeding ecology in fishes have evolved. The PhD student will work with a combination of morphology, molecular biology techniques, and computational tools in fishes in a series of projects that will provide opportunities to work with collaborators around the globe.

**Qualifications:**Minimum educational background: BSc (honours) or MSc degree at 2.1 grade or above (or equivalent) in Biology or related discipline. Strong computational skills and experience with programming in R.

Desirable: The successful candidate should be enthusiastic, self-motivated and willing to learn new computational methods, and above all have a willingness to write. As part of this PhD, the candidate will be expected to demonstrate/assist in undergraduate practicals for the academic session.

**Stipend:**The student will receive a tax-free stipend of €22,000 per year, full coverage of tuition fees and funds for conference travel. As part of the agreement, the student will be serve as demonstrator (Teaching Assistant) for a set number of hours each year, which will be paid on top of the stipend at the hourly rate (<https://www.ucd.ie/hr/pay/hourlypaidemployees/hourlypaidrates/>).

**Equality and diversity:** UCD is committed to creating an environment where diversity is celebrated and everyone is treated fairly regardless of gender, age, race, disability, ethnic origin, religion, sexual orientation, civil status, family status, or membership of the travelling community (<https://www.ucd.ie/equality/>). Applications from all suitably qualified candidates will be considered.

**About UCD:**UCD, located in the cosmopolitan city of Dublin, Ireland, is one of the top universities in Europe - and is also ranked in the top 1% of higher education institutions worldwide. Our students love the UCD campus, a huge, spacious campus with lakes, woodland walks and wildlife close to Dublin's city centre.  
UCD is the most international university in Ireland and welcomes hundreds of new international students every year. Specific information and support for international applicants including visa requirements is available here: <https://www.ucd.ie/global/study-at-ucd/>

**Informal enquiries are welcome and should be made to Dr Darrin Hulsey (**[darrin.hulsey1@ucd.ie](mailto:darrin.hulsey1@ucd.ie)).

To apply please e-mail [darrin.hulsey1@ucd.ie](mailto:darrin.hulsey1@ucd.ie) a single pdf document with

* thesis and/or scientific publication,
* a detailed curriculum vitae describing any previous research experience,
* a cover letter detailing your research interests, goals, as well as reasons for applying for the position, and
* the contact details (e-mail and phone number) of at least two academic referees.

Please reference “PhD Application – fish adaptation genomics” in the subject line of the email.

Evaluation of applicants will commence on November 1, 2022, and will continue until the position is filled.