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## **IGNITE-GIGA Graduate-Student Fellowship in Invertebrate Genomics 2021**

The Global Invertebrate Genome Alliance (GIGA) was formed in 2013 as a collaborative network of diverse scientists who wish to advance the state of genomic research on non-vertebrates for the international scientific community. GIGA is dedicated to promoting resources and standards that will facilitate comparative approaches and collaborations for future generations. As part of this mission, the European Innovative Training Network (ITN) “Comparative Genomics of Non-Model Invertebrates” (ITN IGNITE, <http://www.itn-ignite.eu/>) sprang from the second GIGA meeting in Munich (Germany) in 2015, and obtained funding from the Horizon 2020 EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation to train 15 early stage researchers (ESRs) in invertebrate genomics across Europe.

With these objectives in mind, we are excited to announce a special

### ***GIGA-IGNITE Fellowship in Invertebrate Genomics***

to provide financial assistance to graduate students involved in invertebrate genomic research (non-insect/non-nematode) to work in an IGNITE laboratory in Europe in 2021-2022.

#### *Award information:*

Amount: up to **1,600 € lump-sum** support, which can be applied towards any research invertebrate genomics project. Support will be provided for any area of invertebrate genomic research in the IGNITE network (i.e. wet-lab, computational, theoretical, see [here](#) for a list of possible host labs) and is

intended to support travel to/from the host lab and subsistence during the internship. The funds are not provided for research support or field collections.

Anticipated Number of Awards:      **One in 2021**

Eligibility: MSc or PhD students currently enrolled in a graduate research program. Not limited to any nationality or country of origin.

Deadline: **19 April 2021**

*Application Process:*

To apply, applicants must submit

- 1)** a curriculum vitae
- 2)** a max 1000-word statement that outlines the research project objectives, methods, intellectual merit, a justification of the desired IGNITE host lab, and how the proposed project fits GIGA aims
- 3)** a budget detailing total costs and any possibility of co-funding
- 4)** a 500-word justification for the financial need and how this award will enhance the candidate's research.

Optionally, one or two letters of recommendation may also be sent directly to Heather Bracken-Grissom (hbracken@fiu.edu).

Please provide all other documents (1-4) as a SINGLE pdf to Heather Bracken-Grissom (hbracken@fiu.edu) with the file name and email header written as "LASTNAME\_GIGA-IGNITE\_Fellowship2021".

Applications by members of underrepresented groups and countries are encouraged and can be noted as part of the statements.

*Selection Process:*

Selection of meritorious graduate students will be performed by an ad hoc committee composed of GIGA and IGNITE Board Members. Primary criteria for the awards will include each student's financial needs and motivation, the quality of the essay describing their research project, as well as the

taxonomic focus, methods and relevance of their project to invertebrate genomics. As the gender or other underrepresented groups balances within STEM fields remains inadequate, underrepresented students will be targeted for these fellowships.

Learn more about GIGA here: <http://giga-cos.org/>