A Research Specialist position is now open in Bonnie Blaimer’s lab in the Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology at North Carolina State University. The successful candidate will assist in conducting molecular genomics laboratory work and data analyses, as well as support field sampling and collection-based research for several ongoing projects on the diversity and evolution of ants and other Hymenoptera.

Molecular genomics work includes (but is not limited to) library preparation and target enrichment of UCEs, and the processing of UCE sequence data using bioinformatics and phylogenetic tools. The individual will also be involved in field work in natural habitats in North Carolina, employing standard sampling protocols for insects, and will be responsible for the processing of insect samples, including sample sorting and identifications, labeling and databasing. Further expected are contributions to research design and evaluation, publication and grant writing, and the training of students in laboratory techniques.

Candidates must have a B.S. in Biology, Entomology or related discipline (MSc. preferred). Prior work/research experience in a molecular laboratory, knowledge in insect identification (or a strong interest to learn) and basic experience with linux/mac command line and the R environment are further required. Preference will be given to candidates with bioinformatics skills, such as experience with Python or a different programming language, and advanced knowledge of collection-based research techniques in Entomology, such as specimen identification, preparation, imaging and databasing. We seek an individual with good organizational, interpersonal and verbal communication skills, as well as good physical fitness and willingness to perform field work under variable conditions.

Start date is July 1, 2018. This position is initially for one year, with potential for renewal for up to two additional years. Unfortunately, we can consider only US-citizens or non-citizens with existing work authorization for the US at this point.

To apply: Submit 1) a cover letter outlining your motivation and research experience, 2) CV, and 3) the contact information for two references to Dr. Bonnie Blaimer at bonnie.blaimer@ncsu.edu. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.