



## PhD Program between the Freie Universität Berlin (FUB) and the China Scholarship Council (CSC)

### Open PhD position at FUB for CSC scholarship candidates 2016

*Please note: the PhD position is only offered to Chinese PhD candidates for application in the framework of the FUB-CSC PhD Program.*

<b><u>Department/Institute:</u></b>	Institute for Biology – Epigenetics of Plants
<b><u>Subject area:</u></b>	Plant epigenetics, Plant development
<b><u>Name of Supervisor:</u></b>	Prof. Dr. Daniel SCHUBERT (Mr.)
<b><u>Number of open PhD positions:</u></b>	1
<b><u>Type of the PhD Study:</u></b>	Full-time
<b><u>Project title:</u></b>	Epigenetic regulation of commitment to flowering

#### **PhD Project description:**

Research in the group focuses on plant developmental epigenetics and specifically the role of Polycomb-group proteins and histone modifications in controlling plant development and cell fate (see Schatlowksi et al. 2010, Plant Cell 22: 2291; Lafos et al. 2011, PLoS Genetics 7: e1002040; Müller-Xing et al. 2014, Plant Cell 26: 2457). We have previously revealed that the maintenance for flower and seed production is under epigenetic control. Using forward genetics we have identified several novel mutants in *A. thaliana* showing floral reversion and have now mapped the mutations in several mutants.

The aim of the PhD is to characterize the mutants, the corresponding genes and identify additional mutants from the screen. The project will combine biochemical, molecular, genetic and developmental analyses and use cutting-edge technologies and facilities for imaging and mutant analyses, cell-type specific, epigenomic profiling (INTACT, ChIP-Seq) and biochemical analyses.

Overall, the project will contribute to understand the developmentally and agronomically important subject floral maintenance which is also very relevant in crop species like soybean.

#### **Language requirements:**

English

#### **Academic requirements:**

The candidates should have a Master in Biology (or related). A background in epigenetics, plant molecular biology and/or genetics is an advantage. The successful candidates are expected to be highly motivated and creative team players.

**Information of the professor or research group leader:**

The laboratory of Prof. Schubert recently moved from the Heinrich-Heine-University Duesseldorf to the Freie Universität Berlin.

The group consists of several international students and the working language is English. More information on the research topics, publications etc can be found here:

<http://www.entwicklungsepigenetik.hhu.de/>

**Please note:**

In a first step the complete application should submit to the Beijing Office for evaluation by January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Please don't contact the professor before. He/She will get in contact with you after having received the complete application in January.