



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

Open PhD position at FUB for CSC scholarship candidates 2018

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

<u>Department/Institute:</u>	Department of Biology, Chemistry, Pharmacy / Institute of Biology
<u>Subject area:</u>	Botany
<u>Name of Supervisor:</u>	Prof. Dr. Julien B. Bachelier
<u>Number of open PhD positions:</u>	4
<u>Type of the PhD Study:</u>	Full-time or Sandwich-Model
<u>Project title:</u>	Comparative studies of flower and seed development, and their implications for the systematics and evolution of flowering plants

PhD Project description:

In the past twenty years, molecular phylogenetic methods based mainly on the comparison of DNA sequences and on the principle of common ancestry (monophyly) have greatly contributed to the successful reconstruction of the phylogenetic tree of flowering plants at all hierarchical levels, and led to much improved classifications. In addition, if the results of these studies often proved to be congruent with traditional studies, especially at lower systematic levels (e.g., of families and genera), at higher levels they showed that dicotyledons and many subgroups were paraphyletic and that traditional classification was often misled by homoplastic characters. Thus, a number of orders have been completely restructured and now comprise families that were scattered in several orders in earlier classifications, and some orders were even newly established (e.g., Crossosomatales or Huerteales in rosids). As the families of such orders were previously not considered to be related, their vegetative and reproductive structures has never been comparatively studied and it is important that these new classifications are now evaluated with the use of comparative morphological and anatomical studies (e.g., Crossosomatales). Such studies are time consuming and because the systematic classification has different hierarchical levels, they must be done in a stepwise fashion. However, for the very same reason, they can also be customized easily to match the ambitions and interests of each student.

Language requirements:

IELTS 6.5 or TOEFL 95 ibt.

Academic requirements:

Ideal candidates should have a strong background and interest in plant systematics, structure, and development, especially (but not only) in flowering plants, as well as in histology and microscopy. A Master's degree is the minimum requirement.

Information of the professor or research group leader:

Information on my research group, interests, experience, and publications can be found at:
http://www.bcp.fu-berlin.de/en/biologie/arbeitsgruppen/botanik/ag_bachelier/people/index.html
https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Julien_Bachelier
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/julien-bachelier-1574055a/>

Please note: In a first step, the complete application must be submitted to the Beijing Office for evaluation by January 4th, 2018. Please do not contact the professor before. He/She will get in contact with you after having received the complete application via the Beijing Office in January.