



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

### Open PhD position for CSC scholarship candidates 2015

The PhD position is only offered to Chinese PhD candidates for application in the framework of the FU-CSC Program.

<b><u>Department/Institute:</u></b>	Institute of Biology – Ecology of Plants
<b><u>Subject area:</u></b>	Plant, fungal and soil ecology
<b><u>Name of Supervisor:</u></b>	Prof. Dr. Matthias C. Rillig
<b><u>Number of open positions:</u></b>	1-2
<b><u>Project title:</u></b>	Ecology of plant root colonizing fungi
<b><u>Project description:</u></b>	

Plant roots in the field are colonized by a range of different fungi, and new fungi are continuously being discovered. Currently we are particularly interested in carrying out experiments with less-well studied fungal types, such as Sebaciniales or others, which can be growth-promoting fungi or also saprobes/parasites; most of these fungi have been isolated from a local grassland.

The candidate(s) would carry out greenhouse pot experiments with these fungi, test for their interactions with individual plants, and study effects on plant communities and soil parameters (such as soil structure). Measurements include plant parameters (root traits, biomass, composition), and can also employ molecular ecology methods to characterize fungal communities.

Within this general framework projects can be designed to cover the applicants' particular interests.

#### **Language requirements:**

English is the language spoken in the lab and in which doctoral theses are written. German language proficiency is not required.

#### **Academic requirements:**

MS degree in ecology, plant biology, soil science, mycology or related fields.

#### **Link to professor and further information:**

For information on the lab see <http://sites.google.com/site/mycorrhizas/>

For info on Matthias Rillig see [www.researchgate.net/profile/Matthias\\_Rillig](http://www.researchgate.net/profile/Matthias_Rillig)

#### **Please note:**

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