Assistant/Associate Professor in **Ecological, Environmental and Evolutionary genomics** at KU Leuven, Belgium

**Deadline: 17 September 2021**

**The Division ‘Ecology, Evolution and Biodiversity Conservation’ at the Department of Biology at the KU Leuven (Belgium) is seeking candidates for a faculty position in ‘Ecological, Environmental and Evolutionary genomics’ starting 1 October 2022.** This research profile focuses on advanced expertise in genomic and bioinformatic tools to investigate research questions at the interface of evolutionary biology, ecology and global change biology. The research program aims at obtaining profound insight in the (mal)adaptation of natural populations of aquatic organisms.

The position starts as a research professorship and gradually blends research with the (co-)teaching of various courses in the Bachelor and Master programs of Biology such as *Ecological and Evolutionary Genomics, Evolutionary and Quantitative Genetics, and Freshwater and Marine Ecology.*

**We expect** the successful candidate to:
- be an excellent, internationally oriented researcher and develop a research program at the forefront of Ecological, Environmental and Evolutionary Genomics that focuses on the (mal)adaptation of natural populations of aquatic organisms.
- bring complementary and new expertise in molecular ecology by applying molecular genetic techniques (e.g., genomics, transcriptomics, metabarcoding and metagenomics) to address questions in ecology, evolution, ecotoxicology, behaviour and/or conservation biology.
- strengthen current research lines by working closely with the members of the Biology Department on ‘Eco- and socio-evolutionary dynamics' and/or ‘Global change biology'.
- publish at the highest scientific level in top 5% journals of her/his research field.
- develops her/his own independent research group.
- supervise master students, PhD students and postdocs at a high international level.
- acquire competitive research funding from national and/or international agencies and submits successful research project proposals for this purpose.
- have a pronounced interest in fundamental research but also to pay attention to the valorization and applications of her/his research findings.
- consolidate and manage the aquatic genomics laboratory and maintain close ties with the KU Leuven Genomics Core.

**We offer** amongst others
- full-time employment in an intellectually challenging environment. KU Leuven is a research-intensive, internationally oriented university that carries out both fundamental and applied scientific research. KU Leuven was elected Europe’s most innovative university by Reuters and consistently ranks and features in Europe's top-15 universities within the Times Higher Education ranking. Our university is highly inter- and multidisciplinary focused and strives for international excellence. In this regard, we actively collaborate with research partners in Belgium and abroad. We provide our students with an academic education that is based on high-quality scientific research.
- state-of-the-art facilities in genomics, computational biology, image processing, experimental outdoor and indoor wet labs, and analytical labs, as well as access to relevant KU Leuven core facilities such as the Genomics Core and Imaging Core Facility, and opportunities to team up with KU Leuven institutes such as the Plant Institute and the Institute for Single-Cell Omics.
• a fine work place in Leuven, a historic, dynamic and vibrant city located in the heart of Belgium, within twenty minutes from Brussels, the capital of the European Union, and less than 2 h from Paris, London and Amsterdam.
• a welcoming environment to foreign professors and their family, including practical support regarding immigration and administration, housing, childcare, learning Dutch, partner career coaching, …
• a starting grant of 100,000 euro in order to facilitate scientific onboarding and accelerate research in the first phase; 4 PhD years are offered by the Department of Biology.

This vacancy is imbedded in the general BOFZAP call. The successful candidate will be appointed in one of the two ‘BOFZAP’ categories of research professorships: junior BOFZAP for a researcher with high research potential proven by internationally recognized scientific publications, or Senior BOFZAP for a highly internationally recognized researcher in the field. Key selection criteria for BOFZAP positions is excellence in research reflected in both the scientific achievements and the research plan for the next five years. Candidates will be appointed in an academic staff position (ZAP) with a rank depending on the candidate’s qualifications.

More detailed information, including the composition of the application file can be found [here](#). Specific information for this position will become available on this web site the 5th of July.

BOFZAP applicants must submit a pre-application with a deadline of 17th September 2021 at 5 pm.

Questions can be addressed to the Head of the Division, Professor Robby Stoks and the current position holder Professor Filip Volckaert.

Websites of the **Department of Biology** and the **Division of Ecology, Evolution and Biodiversity Conservation**.