

## **PhD Position in reptile longevity at George Mason University**

An NSF-funded PhD position is available to start in Fall 2021 at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. We are seeking a highly motivated prospective graduate student to investigate the molecular and cellular basis of longevity in reptiles. The project will use comparative genomics and gene editing to discover new genes or pathways that contribute to the incredible diversity in reptile lifespans.

The selected student will work jointly in the labs of Dr. Scott Glaberman (Dept. of Environmental Science and Policy; [www.scottglaberman.com](http://www.scottglaberman.com)) and Dr. Ylenia Chiari (Dept. of Biology; [www.yleniachiarini.it](http://www.yleniachiarini.it)). The Glaberman Lab uses evolutionary approaches to study the physiological diversity of animals and their response to environmental change. The Chiari Lab uses integrative approaches from molecular biology to behavior to computational modeling to study the causes and consequences of morphological variation in reptiles. This project is also in collaboration with Dr. Vincent Lynch (University at Buffalo).

Successful candidates will have some previous research experience and a strong interest in evolution and molecular biology. Candidates interested in longevity, cancer, and molecular evolution are encouraged to apply. Some background or experience in molecular laboratory techniques and/or bioinformatics is encouraged, but not required.

Full support will be provided for the first two years, support during the following years can be provided through a teaching assistantship. However, the successful candidate will be expected to apply for graduate fellowships during his/her PhD.

Prospective students should send a short description of their research interests and past research experience along with a resume or CV (including the names of three people who could serve as a reference on your behalf) to [sglaberm@gmu.edu](mailto:sglaberm@gmu.edu) and [ychiari@gmu.edu](mailto:ychiari@gmu.edu). Selection of candidates will begin immediately, but letters of interest should be submitted no later than December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

The deadline for admission to the PhD program is January 1, 2021

<https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/science/systems-biology/biosciences-phd/>