**Graduate Research Assistantship**

Prospective candidates are invited to apply for a PhD research assistantship to conduct interdisciplinary research in Prof. Jung-Youn Lee’s laboratory at the Delaware Biotechnology Institute, University of Delaware, U.S.A. The successful candidate will participate in the cutting-edge plant research to investigate molecular mechanisms underlying plant responses to biotic and abiotic stresses with the focus on the role of cell-to-cell and long-distance communications. Specifically, the successful candidate will investigate how the intercellular channel plasmodesma is regulated by a set of molecular players at the cell type- and tissue-specific manner. The research involves a state-of-art tools and approaches in molecular and cell biology and genetics, building upon recent findings by Dr. Lee’s research group (Plant Cell (2013), 25(6):2315-29. doi: 10.1105/tpc.113.110676; Nat Plants (2016) 2:16034. doi: 10.1038/nplants.2016.34).

The successful candidate will conduct research in a stimulating and interdisciplinary research environment. Candidates will be preferred, holding a MSc degree (or equivalent) in Biology, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, or similar. Research experience in DNA cloning, transient gene expression and plant response to abiotic or biotic stress is required. The successful candidate is a highly motivated, proactive, team-oriented member with excellent academic record, strong passion for plant research, and proficient communication skills in English. Graduate research assistants receive full tuition credit ($31,860 per year) and a stipend (~$26,000-28,000 per year commensurate with experience).

Those candidates interested in applying should directly contact Prof. Jung-Youn Lee via email (lee@dbi.udel.edu).