The laboratories of Judith Mank and Kevin Wei at the University of British Columbia are jointly seeking a graduate student interested in studying how recombination rate and genome architecture evolve. The successful applicant will learn to use cutting-edge evolutionary, population, and functional genomic techniques to tackle fundamental questions such as how does genome-wide recombination rate diverge between closely related species, what causes this divergence, and whether changing recombination rate confers fitness advantages. The exact questions and methodologies will be determined by the interests of the student.

The Wei Lab is a highly integrative research group newly established in the Department of Zoology. Located in the Life Science Institute, the lab focuses on genetic conflicts that drive the evolution of genome architecture, meiosis, and embryonic development. The lab utilizes a diverse array of techniques to understand the molecular and genetic basis underlying recurrent evolution in fundamental processes. More information is available at https://weikevinhc.github.io/

The Mank lab, located in the Biodiversity Research Centre and the Department of Zoology studies the evolution of sexual dimorphism using genomic, transcriptomic and phenomic approaches. We integrate cutting edge methods with natural variation, convergent evolution and artificial selection in an array of vertebrate systems. More information is available at https://www.zoology.ubc.ca/mank-lab/

The University of British Columbia is one of the premier Universities in Canada. It is located in Vancouver, a beautiful, welcoming, and multicultural city with a multitude of outdoor and cultural opportunities.

The Department of Zoology, the Life Sciences Institute and the Biodiversity Research Centre together form a world-leading community of evolutionary biologists. Graduate students are accepted by the department to either the PhD or MSc program (https://www.grad.ubc.ca/unit/department-zoology). The admitted student is expected to start in the Fall semester (Term 1) of 2023, and will join a vibrant, supportive research community that strongly values equity, diversity, and inclusion. The position is fully funded through a combination of fellowships (external/internal), teaching, and research assistance-ships. Details about the department, graduate programs, and application process can be found at https://www.zoology.ubc.ca/graduate-program/prospective-students.

Interested individuals should directly contact Dr. Mank and Dr. Wei at: mank@zoology.ubc.ca and weikevin@zoology.ubc.ca. Please attach your CV, a brief statement of interests and goals for pursuing a PhD, as well as contact information for three references.