

The Lab of Climate and Soil Biogeochemistry (<http://www.tnstate.edu/faculty/jli/> or <http://jwli.weebly.com/>) seeks motivated graduate students (one MS and two PhD) starting in Spring or Fall 2020 to study soil microbial response to temperature change through a NSF funded project awarded to the PI at Tennessee State University. The group's interdisciplinary research integrates field and laboratory observations as well as modeling approaches to address questions that intersect external disturbances and global biogeochemical cycles. The lab's current research projects include: 1) thermal variation, precipitation regime and nitrogen fertilization on soil organic matter decomposition and the underlying soil microbial processes, and 2) assimilating large experimental dataset with mechanistic models to improve soil simulation. Research opportunities may include soil's elemental, isotopic, microbial and genetic level responses to climate warming and soil carbon cycle modeling. Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree in soil science, biogeochemistry, microbiology, environmental science or a closely related field. Laboratory and/or field research experience is preferred, but evidence of passion for scientific inquiry and aptitude for collaborative research are expected. The master degree applicant in aforementioned area will be given priority for filling the PhD positions. The duration is 3 years for PhD position and 2 years for MS position. The stipend of \$30,000/yr for PhD position with \$3,000 travel allowance per year. The stipend for MS position will match with the master student assistantship in the College of Agriculture at TSU. To apply, please send a statement of interest, complete CV, and contact information for three professional references as a single PDF file to jli2@tnstate.edu. Transcripts and GRE scores are required though unofficial copies are accepted for review purpose. Review of applicants will begin immediately and remain open until filled. The application deadline for PhD position is March 15 but prospective applicants for both MS and PhD positions are encouraged to contact the PI (jli2@tnstate.edu) as soon as possible. For more information, please visit <http://www.tnstate.edu/graduate/applicationdeadlines.aspx> and <http://www.tnstate.edu/graduate/internationalstudentadmission.aspx>. Principle Investigator (PI): Dr. Jianwei Li, Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Tennessee State University, Nashville TN 37209. Minority and women applicants are particularly encouraged to apply.