

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • MERCED • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO

SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

DEPARTMENT OF PLANT SCIENCES
MAIL STOP 4
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
ONE SHIELDS AVE
DAVIS, CALIFORNIA 95616-8780
TELEPHONE: 530-752-1703
FAX: 530-752-4604

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

October 3rd, 2012

Search Committee
Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology
Iowa State University
251 Bessey Hall
Ames, Iowa 50011

Dear Search Committee,

Please find attached my application for Assistant Professor of Plant Evolutionary Genomics in the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology. My graduate work (MS, International Agricultural Development; PhD, Ecology) involved evolutionary and ecological studies of crops and their wild relatives. I am currently a third-year postdoctoral scholar with Jeffrey Ross-Ibarra at the University of California, Davis. My ongoing research topics include population genomics of maize domestication and improvement, evolutionary genomics of wild maize, and evolution of centromeres in the genus *Zea*. My research combines both genomic and field approaches to address fundamental questions in evolution and ecology and I believe I am well qualified for the open position in your department.

Iowa State University would be a wonderful place to continue my research due to the strength of the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology and an obvious commitment to developing genomic resources and approaches as evidenced in the Center for Plant Genomics. My field of expertise, plant evolutionary genomics, is developing rapidly and I believe I am well prepared to join the faculty of Iowa State and continue on with an exciting academic career. Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,

Matthew B. Hufford