Graduate Research Assistant (MS Position)

A graduate research assistantship is available for a Master (MS) student in the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences at Auburn University starting from Fall, 2020. The successful candidate will be involved in a multidisciplinary project in the field of Sustainable Biomaterials and Packaging with a focus on fiber-based packaging design, manufacturing, and characterization. Moisture related fiber-based material properties, including moisture sorption isotherm, mechanical properties, etc. will be investigated in detail. The successful candidate will be funded during the study period (2 years) with an assistantship and tuition.

The ideal candidate should have:

- Bachelor’s degree in wood science, packaging science, chemical engineering, polymer science and engineering, mechanical engineering, materials science and engineering, or other closely related disciplines relevant to the topics of study
- Maintained good academic standing, highly motivated, and critical thinking
- GRE score is required from the Auburn University Graduate School.
- International students should also provide TOEFL scores meeting the Graduate School requirements

Interested candidates should apply through the graduate school of Auburn University (http://graduate.auburn.edu/prospective-students/application-instructions/). Making prior contact is strongly encouraged. Please send a copy of your CV, transcripts, and TOEFL/GRE scores to Dr. Yucheng Peng at yzp0027@auburn.edu. The review of the applications will start immediately until the position is filled.

The interdisciplinary research in biomaterials and packaging across the Auburn campus is distinct. The Forest Products Development Center and/in SFWS has been working across campus to develop an interdisciplinary pipeline that will provide natural resource based feedstock’s, plant based chemical building blocks, and sustainable polymers to this packaging research program. To achieve this endeavor, the FPDC works closely with other units and Centers including: School of Industrial and Graphic Design, Departments of Materials Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Biosystems Engineering, and the Centers for Polymer and Advanced Composites, Bioenergy and Bioproducts, and the Alabama Center for Paper and Bioresource Engineering. The detail about this program can be found at the website (https://sfws.auburn.edu/sustainable-biomaterials-packaging/).

Auburn University is a public research and land-grant university in Auburn, Alabama. With more than 23,000 undergraduate students and a total enrollment of more than 30,000 with 1,260 faculty members, Auburn is the second largest university in Alabama. It is one of the state's two public flagship universities (http://www.auburn.edu/).