University of British Columbia
Ph.D. Positions in Bamboo and Wood Composite Materials

Research description
Positions are open for highly-motivated Ph.D. students in the Department of Wood Science, University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver, Canada. The successful applicants will join UBC’s newly-created Bamboo Utilization Technology (BUT) Program, to conduct fundamental and applied research on bamboo-based and bamboo-wood hybrid composites. Using both experimental and analytical approaches, he or she will develop new knowledge about structure-property relationship of bamboo, bond-ability and durability of bamboo and bamboo-wood composites, and processing-property relationship of engineered bamboo/wood products. Taking advantage of bamboo’s high strength, fast growth rate and low carbon footprint, the goal of this research is to develop next-generation sustainable building materials using bamboo and wood. The work will be performed in collaboration with our industrial and academic partners in Canada and around the world.

About the Department
The Department of Wood Science represents one of the three departments that comprise the Faculty of Forestry at the University of British Columbia. The University of British Columbia is a global center for research and teaching, consistently ranked about top 40 universities in the world and ranked among the top 20 public universities worldwide. The Vancouver Campus is located in the cosmopolitan city of Vancouver, Canada and offers a large number of outdoors activities, including aquatic sports and ski.

Qualifications
Candidates must have a M.Sc. in wood science or related fields (e.g. materials science, mechanical or chemical engineering). Prior knowledge in bamboo or other natural fibres, and experience in materials or process modeling will be an asset. The candidates should be skilled in data processing using spreadsheet or software such as Python. He or she should demonstrate the ability to conduct independent research while interacting with fellow graduate students and other team members.

Research Assistantships
A four-year assistantship will be provided to the selected candidate, for a total Graduate Research Assistantship (GRA) package of $23,000/year 12-month-based stipend. There is also the possibility of additional funding through the Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA) program.

How to apply
Interested students are invited to contact Dr. Chunping Dai (chunping.dai@ubc.ca). Please send a cover letter, a statement of research interest, a CV and contact information of at least two references. Use subject ‘Application PhD 2019’ when emailing. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interviews.

Regarding full application procedure, admission requirements and other relevant information, please visit: https://forestry.ubc.ca/students/graduate/programs/doctor-of-philosophy/phd-how-to-apply/.

For further information and inquiries
Please contact Ms. Robin Poirier-Vasic Graduate Admissions Coordinator, forestry.grad@ubc.ca.