



UNIL | Université de Lausanne

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Post-doctoral Research Fellow
Organisation: Complex Trait Genetics Group, Department of Computational Biology
Employment: Full-time, fixed term for 12 months initially, renewable up to 5 years depending upon performance

BACKGROUND

The Complex Trait Genetics Group (www.unil.ch/ctgg) is a newly established research group within the Department of Computational Biology at the University of Lausanne, led by Matthew Robinson. Our research is at the interface of human medical genetics, population genetics, and bioinformatics. The aim of our work is to develop innovative methods in the analysis of genetic data of complex traits to gain new insight into complex human disease. Our research is regularly published in top journals and within the next two years we expect to grow to a dynamic team of 3 post-doctoral research staff and two PhD students. The Department of Computational Biology is newly formed and consists of seven groups and additionally the candidate will initially be hosted within the Centre for Integrative Genomics, enabling maximum opportunities for collaboration and transfer of knowledge and ideas. The University of Lausanne is an internationally focussed university with close connection to the University Hospital (CHUV), a wide range of data resources, excellent computing facilities (VITAL-IT) and a beautiful setting. There are opportunities to work with large population-based data sets and to be part of research teams, to address individually developed and collaboratively generated research questions, and to supervise undergraduate and graduate students. The appointee will be supported in the development of independently driven research objectives and supported to apply for independent funding.

DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

The applicant will be required to work with the group leader on existing projects (some of which are listed below), and are also expected to develop their own ideas and research program.

There are a number of research projects available, including but not limited to:

- Improving prediction of common complex disease in personalized medicine
- Bayesian analysis of large scale genotype-phenotype data
- Understanding the genetic control of environmental variation
- Utilizing multiple sources of genomics data to understand the genetic basis of disease

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Research including analysis of data, method development and testing, and writing computer code to conduct data analysis
- Primary role in manuscript preparation and publication
- Presentation of results in lab meetings and conferences
- Displaying a work ethic expected for a researcher aspiring to a long-term career in science
- Administrative aspects that underlie scientific research
- In discussion with lab heads, development of timelines
- Record-keeping
- Collaboration with other group members, with other members of the department and as part of national and international consortia
- Co-supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate student projects

Reporting Relationships

Reporting to Dr. Matthew Robinson

SELECTION CRITERIA

Qualifications

Essential

- PhD in a relevant field e.g. statistical genetics, quantitative genetics, bioinformatics, computer programming, statistics or other relevant areas

Knowledge and Skills

Essential

- Evidence of research productivity, including publications and conference presentations
- Knowledge of the principles of genetics and genomics
- Computing skills, including in scripting language and programming
- Knowledge of linear model methodology

Desirable

- Knowledge of quantitative genetics models and theories
- Expertise in the development and application of multi-marker methods
- Knowledge of prediction approaches in personalized medicine

Experience

Desirable

- Experience in the analysis of large-scale genetic data
- Past track record in genetics related research demonstrating ability to both work within teams and independently to successfully complete research projects
- Experience in supervising or co-supervising RHD students
- Evidence of a contribution to research, including successful external grant applications

Personal Qualities

Essential

- Excellent attention to detail and record-keeping skills
- Self-reliance and motivation
- A high level of written, oral and interpersonal communication skills
- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues
- Initiative and problems solving skills
- Ability to work relatively independently with excellent organisational skills that allow for meeting deadlines

The University of Lausanne is an equal opportunity employer.

REMUNERATION

This is a full-time, fixed term appointment, initially for 12 months in the first instance, but with extension possible up to 5 years depending upon performance. The starting date is flexible. The remuneration package can be viewed here:

https://www2.unil.ch/srhreferentielmetier/docs/3.070_RE_BARM_Enseignant_2016.pdf

HOW TO APPLY

To discuss the role please contact Matthew Robinson matthew.robinson@unil.ch

Applications should be a single PDF document containing a research statement, curriculum vitae, a publication list, a detailed response to the selection criteria, and contact details of three individuals who can provide academic references. Applications should be sent to matthew.robinson@unil.ch

Closing date for applications is 19th May 2017. Interviews will take place on the 25th or 26th of May 2017 on Skype. Following that, shortlisted candidates may be invited (expenses paid) to visit the Department to meet with colleagues and present their previous work.