Job Description

Job Title: Research Associate Bioinformatician

Centre: Division of Infection & Immunity

Responsible to: Dr Helen M Rowe

Grade: Grade 7

Salary: £34,635 - £41,864 per annum inclusive of London Allowance. Appointment at grade 7 is dependent upon having been awarded a PhD; if this is not the case, initial appointment will be at research assistant Grade 6B (salary £30,316 - £31,967 per annum) with payment at Grade 7 being backdated to the date of final submission of the PhD thesis or to start date of appointment as appropriate.

Location: Cruciform Building, UCL Bloomsbury Campus

Leave Entitlement: 27 days per annum plus Bank Holidays and College Closure days

Duration: The post is for 2 years in the first instance

Job Summary

Applications are invited for an ERC funded Postdoctoral Bioinformatician position in Dr Rowe’s research group. Dr Rowe’s group conduct innovative research on how transposons, which comprise half of the human genome, switch genes on and off through epigenetic mechanisms. The post-holder will investigate how transposons remodel the genome during embryonic stem cell differentiation and during reprogramming. They will work with students and postdocs in Dr. Rowe’s group generating hypotheses through the analysis of RNA-sequencing and ChIP-sequencing data focused on transposon functions. There will also be the opportunity for the post-holder to develop new techniques and to have their own additional transposon project upon mutual agreement. The post-holder will attend meetings with bioinformaticians in the recently-built Bill Lyons Informatics Centre at the UCL Cancer Institute, adjacent to the Cruciform building where Dr. Rowe’s group are based. The post-holder will also collaborate with computational biologists in Prof. Richard Goldsteins’ group within the department of Infection and Immunity.

Dr Rowe’s research group is cross-disciplinary with techniques involving stem cell culture and differentiation, chromatin configuration, virology and genetics. We also collaborate with developmental biologists and bioinformaticians. The position would be based at the Cruciform Building on the main UCL Bloomsbury campus, which is in the heart of London close to Oxford circus. See http://helenrowelab.co.uk/ for further information.
Duties and Responsibilities

- To carry out high impact discovery research
- Flexible working to meet project deadlines
- Willingness to develop innovative techniques to analyse transposons
- Analyse results and prepare them for publication
- Engage with external collaborators to take advantage of multi-disciplinary research
- Present your data at departmental, national and international conferences
- Support other members of the team, particularly students working in the laboratory
- Up-to-date documentation of experiments in a lab book and protocols/ pipelines used.
- To maintain awareness of health and safety regulations; to make sure all risk assessments are up-to-date and to ensure that all codes of practice are being followed.
- To contribute to the overall activities of the research team and department as required.
- As duties and responsibilities change, the job description will be reviewed and amended in consultation with the post-holder.
- The post-holder will carry out any other duties as are within the scope, spirit and purpose of the job as requested by the line manager.
- The post-holder will actively follow UCL policies including Equal Opportunities and Race Equality policies.
- The post-holder will maintain an awareness and observation of Fire and Health & Safety Regulations.
**PERSON SPECIFICATION**

*The following is a list of essential requirements needed in order to do the job. Applicants will be shortlisted solely on the extent to which they meet these requirements.*

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<th>Competency</th>
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| Knowledge and Experience    | ▪ PhD (or about to be awarded) in Bioinformatics  
▪ Experience in analyzing RNA-sequencing and ChIP-seq data independently  
▪ Possess programming skills using Perl or Python.  
▪ Be proficient with R and Bioconductor  
▪ Able to apply statistics in the analysis of genomics data  
▪ Commitment to verify that analyses have been performed correctly  
▪ Evidence of significant scientific contribution to publications  
▪ Reliably organize and store deep sequencing data and upload it to public databases  
▪ An understanding of basic genome biology  
▪ Passion for academic research and problem solving  
▪ Willingness to pioneer new techniques  
▪ Positive selection analysis  
▪ Experience with analyzing 4C-sequencing data                                                                                     | E   |
| Communication               | ▪ Excellent oral & written scientific communication skills  
▪ Ability to patiently train and supervise new staff and students in basic bioinformatics skills  
▪ Excellent communication to external collaborators  
▪ Ability to present complex information effectively to a range of audiences                                                                                         | E   |
| Teamwork and Motivation     | ▪ Enthusiastic, eager to learn and self-motivated  
▪ Willingness and ability to work as part of a team                                                                                                                   | E   |
| Planning and Organizing     | ▪ Ability to work flexibly to meet deadlines  
▪ Commitment to taking a multidisciplinary approach to problem solving                                                                                                   | E   |
| Resources                   | ▪ Commitment to UCL’s policies including Equal Opportunities and Race Equality policies  
▪ Maintain an awareness and observation of Fire and Health & Safety Regulations                                                                                          | E   |

E = Essential  
D = Desirable

**Informal Enquiries:**  
For any informal enquiries about the project, please contact Dr Rowe, [h.rowe@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:h.rowe@ucl.ac.uk)  
For any enquiries relating to the application process please contact Isabel Lubeiro, [i.lubeiro@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:i.lubeiro@ucl.ac.uk)