



WETENSCHAPPELIJK INSTITUUT
VOLKSGEZONDHEID
INSTITUT SCIENTIFIQUE
DE SANTÉ PUBLIQUE

Software engineer

The WIV-ISP

The Scientific Institute of Public Health (WIV-ISP) provides support for public health policy through scientific research, expert opinions and divisional tasks. On the basis of scientific research, we formulate recommendations and solutions for a proactive health policy at the Belgian, European and international levels; assess the status of health (indicators) within a certified quality framework; and develop advanced solutions for the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of current and emerging diseases. Recently, we started developing a new next-generation sequencing (NGS) & bioinformatics platform to facilitate the diagnosis, surveillance and control of potential harmful organisms such as pathogens and genetically modified organisms; and to ameliorate public health genomics by integrating NGS into the public health sector. To support the IT requirements of this platform, the WIV-ISP is therefore looking for a **software engineer**.

Your function

You will work in a multidisciplinary environment under the supervision and in collaboration with bioinformaticians, molecular biologists, and IT professionals, in the service 'Platform Biotechnology and Molecular Biology', where you will support and extend the IT expertise of the bioinformatics team. More specifically, you will:

- Be integrated in a small bioinformatics unit that works closely together to develop specialized workflows and pipelines for the analysis of NGS data.
- Communicate with IT professionals to translate the needs of the unit into specific recommendations and requirements (infrastructure, technologies...).
- Collaborate with research scientists of a diverse background to understand and support their needs concerning software development in order to solve specific biological problems.
- Develop, implement, and maintain complex software programs that support the scientific activities of the platform.
- Design, construct, and manage (relational) databases containing big volumes of biological data.
- Build user-friendly (web-based) implementations that facilitate access to developed products of the platform, and maintain a centralized product catalogue.
- Ensure developed applications are in accordance with legal requirements (data security and privacy...), and contribute towards constructing Standard Operating Procedures for their use.

Your profile

- Bachelor's degree in information technology / computer sciences or equivalent through experience.
- At least one year of demonstrable proof of developing, implementing, and documenting a well-defined software engineering project within a given timeframe to answer the needs of your clients.
- Experience with software development under a Linux environment, and basic experience with Linux system administration.
- Skilled in several programming languages: Python, Java, Perl, PHP, C++...
- Knowledge of webservers (Apache, Nginx...) and developing web-based applications.
- Experience in working with relational databases (MySQL, PostgreSQL...).
- A team player with excellent interpersonal, organizational, and communication skills.
- Solution-oriented with strong strategic and analytical problem-solving skills, being able to tackle tough problems independently.
- A quick learner that feels at home in a fast evolving environment.
- English language proficiency.

Complementary strengths: previous working experience in a scientific environment (in particular using NGS data) is an advantage; familiarity with High-Performance-Computing; knowledge of Dutch and/or French; a strong mathematical/statistical background (experience with packages such as R and Matlab); a true love for open-source projects.

We offer

- A challenging and fascinating project in a fast evolving domain.
- A knowledge-intensive position in a renowned scientific institute that operates at an international level.
- The possibility to impact public health policy regarding NGS & bioinformatics.
- Advantages: insurances, flexible hours in a 38-hour working week, reimbursement of public transport...
- A total duration of the project of 2 years (start date: January 2016)

Interested?

Send your application via our website (www.wiv-isp.be/jobs) before 25/10/2015.

For more information about the WIV-ISP and/or the job description, contact:

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