Postdoctoral Scientist Bioinformatics in Multiple Sclerosis

Ref. BAP-2019-747

The Laboratory for Neuroimmunology focusses on translational research on multiple sclerosis (MS). This means that we start from important clinical questions, and investigate these in the laboratory. The aim is to translate the results back to improved health care for MS patients. To reach this goal, the Laboratory for Neuroimmunology has a translational structure with a clear research and clinical pillar. These two pillars build on the complementary expertise of Prof. An Goris and Prof. Bénédicte Dubois. Our research lines include identification of genetic risk factors for susceptibility of MS, genetic risk factors for heterogeneity in MS and functional follow-up of genetic risk factors. More information and examples of recent work can be found on our website (http://gbiomed.kuleuven.be/lni). Our research group also contributes to leading large-scale international communities, such as the International Multiple Sclerosis Genetic Consortium and the MultipleMS project.

http://gbiomed.kuleuven.be/lni

Responsibilities

You will play a key role in local projects as well as in international collaborative projects, such as the EU Horizon2020 research program "MultipleMS" (www.multiplems.eu). In particular, for the "MultipleMS" project you will analyze large datasets integrating biological (genetic, immune phenotype, biomarker, …) and clinical (disease course, imaging, …) data of a unique prospective cohort of newly diagnosed patients with multiple sclerosis. You will manage these projects, and report and communicate on progress in meetings and telephone conferences. You will be co-responsible for successful completion of these projects, and play a key role in the publication of the results. You will train multidisciplinary team members in the usage of computational analysis methods, and you will co-supervise PhD and Master thesis students.

Profile

We are seeking highly motivated individuals with a strong interest in immunogenetics in health and disease, and a strong background in bioinformatics.

Essential knowledge, skills, and experience required:

- MSc in a relevant field such as Biomedical Sciences, Bio-engineering, Bioinformatics or Life Sciences with a PhD in a relevant topic
- A computational mindset and a strong interest in computational biology
- Expertise and proven track record in biological data analysis in health sciences such as analysis of genomics, transcriptomics, immunological or clinical data
- Proficiency in UNIX/Linux and in R programming language
- High sense of accuracy
- Excellent critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Able to work independently but also as a team member and in collaboration with international colleagues
- Fluency in written and spoken English

Additional desirable skills and experience:

- Experience with large-scale computational analysis; running software on a high-performance computing cluster
- Knowledge of human genetics and/or immunology
- Experience with single-cell sequencing analysis
- Programming skills in other languages than R

Offer

We offer a full-time postdoctoral scientist position for one year, renewable for up to three years, in an intellectually challenging environment with state-of-the-art infrastructure and extensive international contacts. We offer a competitive salary, with extra benefits (e.g.health insurance, ecocheques, holiday package, reimbursement of train/bus, children day care, access to facilities such as student restaurant, sport infrastructure etc.).

KU Leuven is a research-intensive, internationally oriented university that carries out both fundamental and applied scientific research. It is highly inter- and multidisciplinary focused and strives for international excellence. In this regard, it actively works together with research partners in Belgium and abroad. You will work in Leuven, a historic, dynamic and lively city located in the heart of Belgium,within 20 minutes from Brussels, the capital of the European Union, and less than two hours from Paris, London and Amsterdam.

Interested?

For more information, please contact Prof. An Goris, an.goris@kuleuven.be.

You can apply for this job no later than January 3, 2020. Please complete the online application procedure and include a detailed CV including a list of publications, a motivation letter, and the contact information of three references.

You can apply for this job no later than January 03, 2020 via the online application tool :

http://www.kuleuven.be/eapplyingforjobs/light/55487847

KU Leuven seeks to foster an environment where all talents can flourish, regardless of gender, age, cultural background, nationality or impairments. If you have any questions relating to accessibility or support, please contact us at diversiteit.HR@kuleuven.be.