



Professional Research Associate, Bioinformatics and/or Computer Sciences

A Post-Doctoral Fellowship is available immediately to work with an interdisciplinary and collaborative team on a project with the focus of genetic analysis of microbial communities for the end goal of enhancing environmental remediation strategies (<http://bit.ly/prqyKC>). The position is located in the research group of Dr. Tony Kusalik, Department of Computer Science, University of Saskatchewan (<http://www.cs.usask.ca>) and will work in collaboration with Contango Strategies Limited (www.contangostrategies.com). The applicant will perform cutting edge research as part of a collaborative interdisciplinary team working on a \$1.8M project managed by Genome Prairie.

The successful candidate will work collaboratively on developing algorithms and software for analyzing high throughput microbial community data generated by next generation sequencing platforms. Problems to be investigated include contig assembly, read correction, clustering, alignment to biological networks and assignment of putative gene functions to RNA sequences as well as pipeline integration of algorithms relevant to these functions. The PRA will provide guidance to junior members of the team (MSc candidates, undergraduate students) and also develop and test methods to find correlates between various qualitative, quantitative, environmental and biological data. Areas of application include analysis and interpretation of DNA (PCR-directed), metagenomics, phylogenetics and RNA-seq. This research will be directly supervised by Dr. Tony Kusalik and performed in collaboration with Dr. Monique Haakensen, a microbiologist from Contango Strategies. The research will take advantage of the local computer and software resources as well as HPC facilities at the U of S and at Compute Canada.

The successful applicant must have relevant experience in Computer Science, Computational Biology, Bioinformatics or a related discipline. Research motivation, good command of English and excellent communication skills are required. Knowledge of sequencing-related algorithms and good programming skills are necessary. Knowledge of LINUX, UNIX, Perl, R and Python will be an advantage. Previous experience with biological data analysis is preferred.

This term position will commence as soon as possible and end on April 30th, 2013. The salary offered will be based on training, education and experience. The continuation of appointment is dependent upon satisfactory performance and the availability of funding.

Applicants are asked to e-mail a CV and cover letter to M.haakensen@usask.ca

Applications will be accepted Until November 30th, 2011 or until a suitable candidate is found. We appreciate all expressions of interest, however only those candidates whose backgrounds best suit our requirements will be contacted. All resumes are retained and treated confidentially for consideration of future opportunities.

The University of Saskatchewan is committed to Employment Equity. Members of Designated Groups (women, aboriginal people, people with disabilities and visible minorities) are encouraged to self-identify on their applications.

