

Postdoctoral Position (Data Analysis, Systems Modelling) in Translational Cancer Research

Location: Institute of Cell Biology and Immunology at the University of Stuttgart (Germany).

Reporting to: Dr Markus Morrison (Rehm) (Head of Institute from April 1st)

Availability: The position is available from **April 1st 2016**, initially for 1 year, with the possibility for extension.

Project background and description:

The overall objective of this project is to develop and validate statistical and systems biology-based patient stratification tools for the personalised treatment of melanoma patients. As part of the EU FP7 SYS-MEL consortium, the candidate will be responsible for the analysis of clinicopathological patient data and quantitative protein data, such as key players of epigenetic expression control and apoptosis regulation. Comprehensive data from multiple patient cohorts has been collected by the SYS-MEL consortium over the past two years and are available for this work. For statistical and systems biological analyses, prototype workflows and models are available and can be extended further as needed for this project. Where necessary, further data curation and annotation in collaboration with clinical partners may form part of the activities. The research consortium operates as a highly interdisciplinary research network between academic, clinical and private sector partners. Excellent communication skills and the ability and willingness to operate at the interface of multiple, traditionally separated disciplines is a key requirement for this position.

Collaboration partners: Oncomark Ltd, Dublin, Ireland; Pathology Diagnostics Ltd., Cambridge, UK; University of Leuven, Belgium; University College Dublin, Ireland; Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden.

Specific duties of this post include:

- The successful applicant will work on their own tasks and also will participate in collaborative research studies in relation to this programme.
- The candidate will be required to have excellent computational, statistical and/or systems biological skills and will be required to keep excellent record.
- The candidate will be expected to write up their work for publication in peer reviewed journals, internal and external reports and to present their research findings at international scientific conferences and at consortium meetings.
- Promoting translational research through interaction with the other consortium partners, the Stuttgart Research Center for Systems Biology (<http://www.centersysbio.uni-stuttgart.de/>) and other relevant bodies.
- The candidate might be requested to assist with the supervision of graduate students and technical staff.
- Undergoing programmes of training and development as may be required from time to time.

Person Specification and Qualification:

- Essential Qualifications: Ph.D.

- It is essential that the candidate has an expert knowledge of concepts in systems biology, bioinformatics and/or multivariate statistics. Knowledge in the area of cancer is highly desirable.
- Experience with modern data analysis tools and programming environments (such as MatLab and/or R) is required.
- Credible written communication abilities, as evidenced by authorship on scientific publications in high quality journals.
- If called upon, the ability to motivate and supervise graduate students and technical staff.
- Excellent interpersonal skills.
- The ability to work on one's own initiative as well as in a team environment.
- Flexibility to work irregular hours on occasion.

Funding mechanism and eligibility: The position is funded through the FP7 Marie Curie Industry-Academia partnership and pathways programme "SYS-MEL" (www.systemel.com). At the time of recruitment, the candidate must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Germany for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the recruitment date. Compulsory national service and/or short stays such as holidays are not taken into account. The candidate must be an Experienced Researcher: S/he must be in possession of a doctoral degree or have at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience.

Salary: The successful candidate will receive a competitive Marie S. Curie Experienced Researcher living and mobility allowance.

Host institution: The University of Stuttgart is one of the top nine leading technical universities in Germany. The Institute of Cell Biology and Immunology is part of the Faculty of Energy-, Process- and Biotechnology and provides state-of-the-art equipment, competitive projects, and the possibility to work in an inspiring interdisciplinary and collaborative environment. The institute is partner in the Stuttgart Research Center Systems Biology (SRCSB), which provides a platform and support for joint project work of experimental, modelling and simulation groups.

<http://www.uni-stuttgart.de/izi/institut/index.en.html>

<http://www.centersysbio.uni-stuttgart.de/Research/index.html>

Application procedure: Candidates must send a full CV, a motivation letter including a description of previous research experiences and contact details or recommendation letters of two 2 referees to mail@izi.uni-stuttgart.

Closing date: Applications must be received by **29th of February 2016, 5pm.**

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