QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

Candidate Information

Position: Research Fellow in Computational Biology
School/Department: School of Biological Sciences
Reference: 24/111565
Closing Date: Monday 19 February 2024
Salary: £37,841 per annum.
Anticipated Interview Date: Thursday 29 February 2024
Duration: Fixed term for 2 years, or available until 30/09/2026, whichever is sooner

JOB PURPOSE:

To be an active member of the research project/team assisting in the development of research proposals and the planning and delivery of the research activity within a specified area so that the overall research objectives of the project/school are met.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. To lead the development as part of a consortium of tools and databases for the EU project Holoruminant (https://holoruminant.eu/).
2. To organise regular work-package meetings, to inform the wider consortium of progress and activities and to facilitate gathering of information critical to the work.
3. To lead the delivery of Milestones and Deliverables associated with the work carried out in QUB as part of the EU Holoruminant project.
4. Develop and plan an area of personal research and expertise, and/or undertake research under supervision within a specific research project or as a member of a research team.
5. Design, develop and refine methods in order to obtain reliable data for the project.
6. Carry out analyses, critical evaluations, and interpretations using methodologies and other techniques appropriate to area of research.
7. Present regular progress reports on research to members of the research group or to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
8. Prepare, often in consultation with supervisor, material for publication in national and international journals and presentations at international conferences.
9. Assist grant holder in the preparation of funding proposals and applications to external bodies.
10. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research project/s to ensure that project/s are completed on time and within budget. These might include organisation of project meetings and documentation, financial control, risk assessment of research activities.
11. Carry out occasional undergraduate supervision, demonstrating or lecturing duties within the post holder's area of expertise and under the direct guidance of a member of academic staff.
12. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or about to obtain a PhD in a relevant area such as computational biology, bioinformatics, or microbiology, with a focus on computational analyses.
2. Significant relevant research experience.
3. Experience in the development of computational pipelines or databases for metataxonomic, metagenomic or metatranscriptomic data or large-scale microbial genomes analysis.
4. Experience of high-throughput middleware/pipeline design for biological analysis.
5. Experience in the use of statistical methods for data analysis.
6. General familiarity with common bioinformatics tools, utilities, programming languages and operating systems.
7. Contribute to general culture of the laboratory, particularly passing on skills to new members.

8.   Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
9.   Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
10. Ability to assess and organise resources.
11. Demonstrable intellectual ability.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:
1.   Experience in the generation of public-facing tools or databases for the scientific community.
2.   Experience in international contexts.
3.   Developing and maintaining open-source packages.
4.   Experience programming in Python.