

Position Description

Job Title: Proteomic Bioinformatician

Business Unit: Systems Department

Purpose of the position

This position is located at the University of Melbourne Bio21 Institute and supports Australian proteomics researchers throughout the Victorian proteomic community.

The role will assist and tutor researchers with using and interpretation of proteomics applications software.

Relationships

Reports to: Dr.Nicholas Williamson (Bio21) through Phil Tannenbaum (VPAC)

Supervisor to: N/A

Key Responsibilities

The role will be to become -an integral part of the Bio21 research team and contribute to manuscripts for publication in journals and conferences, and may have the opportunity to supervise PhD students.

Under broad direction and limited supervision the Bioinformatician will:

- Promote and further develop the APCF proteomics search platform;
 - Monitor developments in proteomic software tools and implement those that best meet the needs of the facility and its users;
 - Train and support novice users in the use of proteomic search tools such as MASCOT, XTANDEM, OMSSA and ProteinPilot;
 - Assist advanced users with bioinformatics support including but not limited to iTRAQ experiments, peptide quantitation, and MHC peptide analysis;
 - Actively participate in opportunities for seeking grant funding; and
 - Making presentations to students at collaborating institutions.
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Career Development

The role is expected to be proactive in identifying career development opportunities. These activities should be consistent with Bio21 and VPAC Business Plans.

Corporate Accountabilities

- To contribute to the strategic direction setting and policy making processes of Bio21 and VPAC by participating in key groups and forums and undertaking specific projects/ tasks.
- To provide the company with prominent acknowledgement and display of appropriate Bio21 and VPAC logos wherever possible and appropriate, in shared projects and industry documentation.
- To support related research activities and administration at the Bio21 Institute to assure VPAC eResearch support is effective and recognised.

OHS / Environment / Quality

- To act in accordance with relevant Occupational Health & Safety Legislation, VPAC's OH&S responsibilities, and Bio21 OH&S responsibilities when at the respective locations.
- To act in accordance with relevant Environmental Legislation, VPAC's environmental responsibilities, and Bio21 environmental responsibilities when at the respective locations
- To perform duties under VPAC ISO Accredited Management System when applicable, and to perform all specified duties under Bio21 process and quality management standards when applicable.

Communication

- Attend and participate in team/divisional activities, meetings, and day to day work activities demonstrating respect and consideration for individuals and their experiences and expertise
- Communicate constructively to other team members and/or VPAC and Bio21 and related company employees
- Be aware of and communicate to other employees and to VPAC and Bio21 as applicable, opportunities for improvement in processes, practices or procedures
- Actively work with and support other team members and/or VPAC and Bio21 employees to achieve business goals
- To present novel academic findings at local and international meetings

Core Competencies

The following are the key skills, behaviours and attributes which are required to perform the role to the desired standard:

- knowledge of mass spectrometry, peptide fragmentation and sequencing
- an understanding of proteomic software (e.g. MASCOT, OMSSA, XTANDEM, ProteinPilot, MRMPilot, MultiQuant) and data resources (e.g. Swiss-Prot).
- knowledge of basic biochemistry or immunology would be an advantage.
- ability to work in a fast paced, flexible environment and to apply initiative to solving problems.
- well-developed inter-personal skills with the ability to motivate and foster a strong team culture.
- The ability to clearly explain and teach the fundamentals of proteomic bioinformatics to biologists that may not have experience with bioinformatics
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- ability to prioritise multiple conflicting customer/business issues. highly effective time management skills
- high level of self-motivation.
- highly developed written and oral communication skills
- sound judgement and decision making ability
- ability to positively manage and absorb change.

Selection Criteria

- A first degree in a relevant scientific or computational discipline and preferably a postgraduate degree (PhD or Masters), or significant experience in bioinformatics or computational biology.
- Demonstrated high order oral, written, and interpersonal skills to successfully interact with and support research scientists and members of the proteomics community
- Understanding the use and interpretation of relevant proteomic software.
- Knowledge of mass spectrometry, peptide fragmentation and sequencing, basic biochemistry or immunology

Employee Signature _____ Date _____

Manager Signature _____ Date _____