David McGuinness

Glasgow Polyomics

Wolfson Wohl Cancer Research Centre

University of Glasgow, Garscube Estate

Switchback Road, Bearsden G61 1QH, UK

+44(0)141 330 4943

David.Mcguinness.2@glasgow.ac.uk

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Dear Researcher,

We would like to invite researchers, particular preference will be given to early career researchers, from your institute to apply for funding to allow the attendance at a week long Microbiome Data Analysis Workshop. The Workshop is being hosted at the University of Glasgow, “for over five centuries the University has inspired people who have gone on to shape other great educational institutions around the world, and we maintain strong relationships with many of them to this day”. The University of Glasgow has been at the forefront of cutting edge technologies for centuries, the University continues to pave the way and spread the knowledge and expertise it develops to enhance global learning, technology and culture. The course will run from 1st June 2020 to 5th June 2020. The course is being funded by the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF)/the Scottish Funding Council and Glasgow Polyomics.

**Scope**

This course will focus on developing knowledge, understanding and the skills to implement microbiome data analyses. Microbiome analyses can be used for a range of experiments such as testing water purity, anmal welfare and monitoring disease outbreaks. The course does not assume any previous knowledge and will begin with a basic introduction to next generation sequencing, the microbiome and data manipulation. This will lead onto data analysis, utilising open source platforms including the Qiime package to sort and analyse a model dataset, which aligns against known 16S databases and compares groups to determine distance and diversity between them. We will continue with a more expanded biomarker style analysis using the LefSe and PiCrust packages, which allow the determination of biomarker genera (LefSe) and the elucidation of the potential metabolic effects induced through the microbiome. We will also introduce alternative analysis tools including Qiime2 and Mothur, which use similar methodology and processes to accomplish the same goals.

We will also have guest lectures from Scottish microbiome researchers, providing background and networking opportunities for attendees.

**Eligibility**

Citizen of a low- or middle- income country

Hold a BSc or have equivalent research/informatics experience

Be eligible for a UK short term visa for reasons of education

**What expenses will be covered?**

These awards will cover visa costs (including travel for visa interview if out with your residential country), travel expenses and up to 6 nights’ accommodation to attend the workshop. Sustenance (3 meals plus coffee breaks) will be covered.

We would be grateful if you would circulate this information, and ask interested researchers to complete the accompanying application and information form. This is a competitive round, and we expect to fund up to 15 researchers.

**The deadline for applications is the 31st October 2019. We anticipate informing successful applicants by the 30th November.**

Yours Sincerely,

David McGuinness, Ph.D.

Research Assistant and Bioinformatician, Glasgow Polyomics.