Postdoctoral Fellowship in Systems Immunology
South African Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative, University of Cape Town

The South African Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative performs cutting edge clinical immunology research in TB pathogenesis, correlates of risk of TB and vaccine development. We are inviting applications for a postdoctoral fellowship in systems immunology to conduct research on a newly funded project aimed at identifying common immune signatures and mechanisms in humans and animal models of TB. This collaborative project, funded by an RO1 grant from the US National Institutes of Health, links global leaders in immunology and systems biology at UCT, University of Washington in St. Louis and Tulane University.

The postdoctoral fellow will be based primarily in Cape Town, but the project will include activity-related travel to St. Louis and/or New Orleans. The successful candidate will assist with the design, development, and performance of quantitative analysis approaches of complex datasets relating to studies of progression of M. tuberculosis infection to TB disease, and comparative analysis between human, primate and murine data. For more information on SATVI, visit www.satvi.uct.ac.za, and on the University of Washington in St. Louis, visit http://microbiology.wustl.edu/index.htm.

Key Requirements:
- Ph.D. degree within the last 5 years in bioinformatics or computational biology, or PhD in biological sciences with at least 3 years of relevant bioinformatics experience.
- Proficiency in R and/or Python programming.
- Strong skills in the application of computational and statistical analytical techniques with a focus on high-dimensional and multivariate data analysis.
- Authorship of peer-reviewed publications related to bioinformatics or immunology.

Core Competencies:
- Demonstrated solid scientific proficiency, creativity, critical thinking ability to collaborate effectively with others, and independent thought processes.
- Ability to handle multiple projects and priorities with exceptional organizational and time management skills.

Qualifications and/or previous experience in biological sciences and especially immunology will be advantageous. The candidate should not have held any prior permanent professional or academic positions and must be prepared to comply with the policies, procedures and practices for the postdoctoral sector at the University of Cape Town. The fellowship is initially tenable for three years, but renewal each year will be contingent on annual progress and performance reviews. The fellowship is valued between R300,000 and R350,000 per year and will depend on relevant experience and skills. The fellowship is compliant with the rules set by the SARS and is exempt from taxation and includes no benefits. No direct service will be required in return for the fellowship.

Potential applicants are encouraged to contact Assoc. Prof. Thomas Scriba, Deputy-Director, Immunology, by e-mail thomas.scriba@uct.ac.za prior to application. To apply, please email a letter of motivation, full CV and contact details of 3 referees, clearly indicating “Postdoctoral Fellowship” in the subject line, to Mrs Alison September at a.september@uct.ac.za or fax to +27 21 4066693. Closing date for applications: 30 July 2016.