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2nd Floor Saltworks
271 Victoria Road
Salt River, Cape Town, 7925

Bioinformatics Scientist

Position Type: Full-Time Employee
Location: Cape Town, South Africa

Company Overview

Kapa Biosystems is a young, dynamic, and rapidly growing biotechnology company employing cutting edge technologies for enzyme engineering and directed evolution to provide innovative products for Next Generation Sequencing (NGS), PCR workflows, and molecular diagnostics in the life sciences market. All R&D is carried out by a growing team of ~20 scientists in our new facility in Cape Town. KAPA products are manufactured in-house and are sold worldwide.

At Kapa Biosystems we strive to create a challenging yet collegial environment where we encourage collaboration and the open exploration of ideas, combining some of the most attractive features of academia with the excitement and rewards of working in an innovative commercial environment.

Role

KAPA is inviting applications for the full-time position of **BIOINFORMATICS SCIENTIST** in our R&D Department. The successful applicant will report to the Senior Bioinformatics Scientist and will be part of a team tasked with the expansion of existing bioinformatics capacity to support our product development efforts in the areas of Next Generation Sequencing, enzyme evolution and engineering, and bioprospecting. This position is particularly suited to individuals, including recent graduates, who are keen to expand their computational biology skills by entering the topical and challenging field of NGS data analysis and visualization in a biotechnology industry context.

Key responsibilities:

- Contribute to a multidisciplinary team that is dedicated to developing, manufacturing, selling, and supporting innovative, world-class products for the NGS market.
- Run and expand existing analysis and visualization pipelines to analyse and interpret varied NGS data sets under the direction of the other bioinformatics team members and the R&D NGS manager.
- Gain knowledge of current and emerging NGS technologies, data types and data analysis paradigms by analysing real-life NGS data sets.
- Gain experience in scripting, pipeline development and maintenance as well as biostatistics in a high performance computing environment as well as data interpretation.

Required qualifications

- B.Sc.(Hons) or higher degree in a relevant subject (e.g. computational biology, bioinformatics, math, statistics or computer science).
- Practical experience with working in UNIX-based environments.
- Proficiency in one or more scripting languages (Perl/Python, Bash).
- Basic knowledge of biology.
- Good personal and communications skills.

Desirable qualifications

- Understanding of genetics and genomics.
- Familiarity with NGS data structures.
- Experience in parallel computing and its application to NGS data analysis.
- Training in statistics.
- Working knowledge of R or a similar language.

Mind set and interpersonal skills

- Keen to learn.
- Enjoys a challenge.
- Takes ownership.
- Analytical rigor and focused on results.
- Flexible and agile.
- Pro-active.
- Team player.

Application Procedure

To apply for the position, please submit the following in a single MSWord or PDF file by e-mail with the following reference in the **subject line** to hr@kapabiosystems.com: **Ref# 01-01-009**

NOTE: Applications that do not have the correct reference in the subject line will **NOT** be considered.

1. Letter of motivation (one A4 page maximum).
2. *Curriculum vitae*, highlighting relevant qualifications and experience, and including:
 - a current e-mail address and cell phone number;
 - the names and contact numbers (e-mail address and daytime telephone number) of three or more references who are able to assess your suitability for the position in terms of the specified requirements.

Closing date for applications: 16 February 2015.

Appointment date: ASAP.

For additional information, please contact Dr Eric van der Walt by email:

eric.vanderwalt@kapabiosystems.com

Kapa Biosystems reserves the right not to make an appointment. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. By applying for this position, the applicant understands, consents and agrees that Kapa Biosystems may solicit a credit and criminal report

from a registered credit bureau and/or SAPS, and may also verify the applicant's educational qualifications and employment history.