

Data curation position at the Interuniversity institute of Bioinformatics in Brussels

We have the possibility to recruit a biocurator for the expansion and improvement of the resource DIDA (<http://dida.ibsquare.be>). DIDA, or the digenic diseases database, needs updates and is in the process of being expanded towards a new resource, the Oligogenic Diseases Database (OLIDA). More information about DIDA is available via <https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkv1068>

The biocurator will be in charge of the updating of the resource, including new developments reported in medical literature, improving our protocol for inclusion of data and optimally have an understanding of databases, python and data visualisation. Assistance in turning this resource into a community supported resource is also part of the tasks list. Research questions may also be explored within the context of DIDA and OLIDA.

The position would be in the context of the Interuniversity Institute of Bioinformatics in Brussels (<http://www.ibsquare.be>) under the supervision of professors Ann Nowé (Vrije Universiteit Brussel) and Tom Lenaerts (Université Libre de Bruxelles). This application is already for year, which may be extend afterwards. The position will be closed as soon as a suitable candidate is found.

How to apply

Persons interested in this position should send a CV (including publications / prior biocuration projects), motivation letter and references to tlenaert@ulb.ac.be. We kindly ask to make it explicitly clear in the motivation letter which of the skills listed below fit your profile.

Requested profile

The ideal candidate has a master's degree/PhD in biocuration, biomedical sciences, biology or corresponding discipline

The candidate has:

- The analytical and critical mindset to help devising curation guidelines.
- The knowledge in molecular biology, cellular biology and genetics is essential.
- A strong interest in clinical data and genetic diseases.
- Knowledge of common bioinformatics routines for variant analysis (variant calling, filtering, prioritization and basic functional analyses...) would be a plus.
- Prior expertise in biocuration and community-driven resources is also a plus.

The following computer science skills are a plus:

- Understanding database architecture, data download formats and SQL querying
- Database use and interface design (e.g. Django)
- Programming concepts (in Python)

- Knowledge of ontologies and how to develop them
- Knowledge of Data management plans, incorporating ethical and legal issues.

The candidate should have the following soft skills:

- Good communication and presentation skills.
- Capable of working independently but with a good team spirit.
- Good organisational skills.
- Good knowledge of English is needed to interact with the team.