



Department of Biological Sciences

Wellesley College

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Postdoctoral position in computational biology/microbial ecology



The Klepac-Ceraj lab in the Department of Biological Sciences at Wellesley College (<https://www.wellesley.edu/biology/faculty/klepac-ceraj>), in conjunction with the Huttenhower lab in the Department of Biostatistics at the Harvard School of Public Health (<http://huttenhower.sph.harvard.edu>), is looking to hire a postdoctoral research fellow.

This position is for research in the microbial ecology in a new Wellcome Trust-funded project and will encompass projects entailing analysis of microbiome samples (shotgun metagenomics and metabolomics) and linking them to human genome datasets, pre- and post- natal environmental exposures, children cognitive development, behavioral and nutritional assessments. While the focus of the position will be to explore how gut microbiomes mediate the relationship between environment and cognition and development in a large ($n \approx 600$), longitudinal, and well-characterized pediatric cohort, candidates are also encouraged to propose research topics of their own related to the project and the candidate's research interests. The candidate will be located primarily at Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA, and will be co-supervised by Drs. Vanja Klepac-Ceraj and Curtis Huttenhower.

In addition to having a Ph.D. or equivalent experience in Computer Science, Biology, Bioinformatics, Statistics, Biostatistics, or a related field, requirements for the position are:

- Experience with analysis of amplicon and shotgun metagenomics datasets
- Proficiency in programming for biological data analysis (julia, python, R)
- Strong writing and communication skills

Additional desired qualifications:

- Experience with version control for code (e.g. git) and data
- Knowledge in database management of structured and unstructured data
- Experience in network analysis
- Experience in machine learning
- Self-motivated and able to work in a team with minimal supervision

This unique postdoctoral position offers many opportunities: travel to project retreats, immersion into a highly interdisciplinary team, attendance at scientific meetings, leadership of manuscript writing, co-mentoring of students, extensive career mentorship with an emphasis on clear communication of science, as well as an opportunity (if desired) to gain teaching experience. This position has potential for a flexible work schedule and, if needed, location flexibility. Competitive salary, benefits, and travel budget are also included. The researcher will also have the opportunity and framework for engaging with large and vibrant community of scientists in the Boston Area, including researchers from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University. Wellesley College is located in Wellesley, MA, ~30 minutes away from downtown Boston.

To apply, please email the cover letter (including a brief but detailed statement of interest), full CV and contact information for 3 references (including current position) to vklepacc@wellesley.edu.

The position begins as soon as a suitable applicant is found. Review of applications will commence immediately.

Wellesley College is an equal opportunity employer.