

Critical Assessment of Genome Interpretation (CAGI) Postdoctoral Researcher



**Research Group of Steven Brenner
University of California, Berkeley**

Establish the state-of-the-art in genome interpretation

We are seeking a leader for the Critical Assessment of Genome Interpretation (CAGI, \k̄ā-jē\), a community experiment to evaluate the prediction of phenotypes from genetic variation. CAGI objectively assesses computational methods for predicting the phenotypic impacts of genomic variation. In this experiment, modeled on the Critical Assessment of Structure Prediction (CASP), participants are provided genotypic data and make predictions of resulting molecular, cellular, or organismal phenotype. These predictions are evaluated against experimental and clinical characterizations, and independent assessors perform the evaluations. Community workshops are held to disseminate results, assess our collective ability to make accurate and meaningful phenotypic predictions, and better understand progress in the field. From this experiment, we identify bottlenecks in genome interpretation, inform critical areas of future research, and connect researchers from diverse disciplines whose expertise is essential to methods for genome interpretation. The third CAGI experiment assessed 188 predictions for ten diverse challenges. These predictions were made by 82 predictors who hailed from labs located in 15 countries.

The CAGI Postdoctoral Researcher will be primarily responsible for operating the CAGI experiment, from developing challenges to managing prediction submissions and assessments to dissemination of results. Each new challenge requires extensive interactions with the data set provider to develop the most informative challenge. Supervision of assessment includes interacting with assessors, developing standard and automated assessment protocols, and ensuring that uniform standards are applied and that proposed assessment methods are appropriate, as well as reviewing assessment results and ensuring that the necessary technical support is provided. Prediction management includes engaging a broad and diverse community, providing tutorials, editing necessary web resources, distributing challenges, robustly accepting predictions, providing comprehensive access to results and analysis, and ensuring data security. The CAGI Postdoctoral Researcher will organize the CAGI conference culminating each experiment, at which results are initially presented. He or she will work with participants to produce publications about CAGI experiments and make presentations to ensure broad dissemination.

For more information, see <http://compbio.berkeley.edu>
<http://genomeinterpretation.org>

Other related positions may be available; inquire with jobs@compbio.berkeley.edu.

The Berkeley academic environment

The Brenner lab is an interdisciplinary research group at the University of California, Berkeley, one of the world's premiere research universities. We are associated with the Department of

Plant and Microbial Biology, the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, the Department of Bioengineering, the Center for Computational Biology, and the California Institute for Quantitative Biosciences, as well as the University of California, San Francisco, and Lawrence Berkeley National Lab.

The University of California, Berkeley ranks first nationally in the number of graduate programs in the top 10 in their fields, according to the most recent National Research Council study.

CAGI is jointly run with the Moulton lab at the University of Maryland. Collaborators in this project include members of the Berkeley Center for Computational Biology, biologists and engineers at Tata Consulting Services, and clinicians at UCSF. The CAGI experiment engages a vibrant community. In addition to predictors, it includes dataset providers, advisory board and council, and assessors: **Advisory Board:** Russ Altman, George Church, Tim Hubbard, Scott Kahn, Sean Mooney, Pauline Ng, Susanna Repo; **Scientific Council:** Patricia Babbitt, Atul Butte, Garry Cutting, Laura Elnitski, Reece Hart, Ryan Hernandez, Rachel Karchin, Robert Nussbaum, Michael Snyder, Shamil Sunyaev, Joris Veltman, Liping Wei; **Data providers:** Adam P. Arkin, Madeleine Price Ball, Jason Bobe, George Church, Andre Franke, Nina Gonzaludo, Emma D'Andrea, Lisa Elefanti, Joe W. Gray, Linnea Jansson, John P. Kane, Pui-Yan Kwok, Rick Lathrop, Angel C. Y. Mak, Mary J. Malloy, Chiara Menin, John Moulton, Robert Nussbaum, Lipika R. Pal, Clive R. Pullinger, Jasper Rine, Maria Chiara Scaini, Jeremy Sanford, Nicole Schmitt, Jay Shendure, Michael Snyder, Tim Sterne-Weiler, Paul L. F. Tang, Sean Tavtigian, Silvio Tosatto; **Assessors:** Rui Chen, Roland Dunbrack, Iddo Friedberg, Gad Getz, Rachel Karchin, Alexander Morgan, Sean Mooney, John Moulton, Robert Nussbaum, Jeremy Sanford, David B. Searls, Artem Sokolov, Josh Stuart, Shamil Sunyaev, Sean Tavtigian, Silvio Tosatto. The CAGI postdoctoral researcher will interact with all CAGI participants.

Qualifications

Candidates must have a PhD or MD or equivalent in computational biology, human genetics, or in a related field.

Candidates must have demonstrated ability to work and communicate with an extensive array of collaborators. Candidates should also have familiarity with managing large data sets, developing standard and automated assessment protocols, managing data set QC, performing human genetic data analyses, ethics of human research participants, publishing in high quality journals, event organization, as well as managing multiple and conflicting obligations and deadlines. Strong positive references are essential.

Salary dependent upon experience and qualifications. Berkeley is committed to diversity in its staff, faculty, and student body, and invites all qualified people to apply, including minorities and women, veterans and individuals with disabilities.

To Apply:

Please apply by email to jobs@compbio.berkeley.edu.

Interested individuals should include a 1-2 page statement of interest, transcripts, and a current CV. Applicants should also arrange for 3 letters of reference to be sent to Dr. Brenner's attention at jobs@compbio.berkeley.edu. All letters will be treated as confidential per University of California policy and California state law. Please refer potential referees, including when letters are provided via a third party (i.e., dossier service or career center), to the UC Berkeley statement of confidentiality (<http://apo.chance.berkeley.edu/evalltr.html>) prior to submitting their letters.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age or protected veteran status. For the complete University of California nondiscrimination affirmative action policy see: <http://policy.ucop.edu/doc/4000376/NondiscrimAffirmAct>.