Third Generation Sequencing

Staff Scientist

The KAUST Core Labs is seeking a highly motivated staff scientist to join the Third Generation Sequencing team in our state-of-the-art Bioscience Core Lab (BCL). The lab houses cutting-edge technologies in the disciplines of genomics and proteomics, and offers expertise in bioinformatics.

This scientist will be part of a highly skilled team to push the boundaries of life science research and technologies to serve the BCL and KAUST’s research and education mission. The successful candidate will be in charge of the operations of highly specialized instruments for sequencing (including PacBio Sequel and Sequel II, Oxford Nanopore GridION and PromethION, Femto Pulse, etc) and will participate in developing cutting-edge methods and applications. He/she must demonstrate expertise and independent working knowledge of a range of sophisticated instruments and techniques, including nucleic acid extraction, library preparation, sequencing and data analysis.

The Core Labs is service- and support-oriented; therefore, it is important for the successful candidate to be able to work under strict deadlines.

Major Responsibilities

- Lead and develop the team to deliver TGS technologies (including PacBio and ONT) and to conduct research analysis and lab procedures with minimal supervision.
- Lead identification, development, implementation, and assessment of new protocols and technologies. Stay up to date on the most advanced techniques and methodologies and share knowledge with other team members.
- Demonstrate independence and critical thinking in designing, executing and troubleshooting experiments and delivering excellent quality data. Interpret data collected in the context of a scientific project or sequencing service, suggest possible next steps and make data-driven decisions.
- Provide guidance and contribute to experimental design and data analysis to address complex scientific problems independently or in collaboration with other scientists.
- Provide deep technical knowledge on advanced and complex topics including customer issues, workflow optimization and improvement of assays and processes. Provide advice to users and PIs on scientific topics and effective utilization of lab resources.

Qualifications & Competencies

- PhD degree in molecular biology, biotechnology, genetics, biochemistry or similar field.
- Experience with genomics sequencing methods (spanning DNA/RNA extraction through sample analysis), NGS and/or bioinformatics ability highly preferable.
- Demonstrated expertise, technical proficiency and deep understanding in TGS technologies, molecular biology, biochemistry and genomics.
- Ability to lead and contribute to the development and optimization of advanced lab methodologies to address advanced scientific questions and achieve organizational goals.
- Track record of high quality publications in scientific journals. Strong scientific and technical problem-solving skills and independent thinking.
- A meticulous, dynamic and resilient individual with proactive personality, positive and innovative mindset and an interest in the big picture.

About King Abdullah University of Science and Technology

Founded in 2009, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) is a top-ranking graduate research university located on the shores of the Red Sea in Saudi Arabia. The University is dedicated to solving global challenges in the areas of food, water, energy, the environment, health and digital. KAUST employees enjoy exceptional packages, including competitive salaries and relocation allowances, fully furnished on-campus accommodation, and comprehensive health insurance coverage. KAUST also provides international schools (IB program) and a wide variety of recreation facilities.

The Core Labs at KAUST is a shared research facility comprised of 12 laboratories run by over 240 staff. Its mandate is to promote the scientific ambitions of KAUST and Saudi Arabia by stewarding and developing state-of-the-art facilities and technical expertise and delivering research support, training, collaboration and services to KAUST faculty, students, researchers and partners.

nicole.cheung@kaust.edu.sa  brendan.phelan@kaust.edu.sa

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