

Call for Applications for Scientist Positions

BACKGROUND

The Sydney Brenner Institute for Molecular Bioscience (SBIMB) seeks interested candidates for scientist positions as part of its contributions to the Harnessing Data Science for Health Innovation in Africa. The SBIMB hosts the MADIVA Research Hub which seeks to apply data science to provide insight into the problem of multi-morbidity in Africa. Change in lifestyle across Africa as well as extended lifespans means that increasing numbers of people have multiple diseases which creates a significant toll on both individual health and public health systems. We believe that data science methods can help tackle the problem by building risk models to understand where pre-emptive steps can be taken and by building monitoring and analytic systems. The SBIMB also contributes to the eLwazi Open Data Science Platform (www.elwazi.org) which is building an interactive environment for African scientists. eLwazi provides a flexible, scalable open data science platform for the DSI-Africa consortium to find and access data, select tools and workflows and run analyses on a choice of computing environments, all through easy to use work spaces.

Some of these positions will be based in Wits's SAMRC Rural Public Health and Rural Health Transitions Research Unit, a collaborator in MADIVA. For all positions candidates should be able to work independently and collaboratively. Candidates should have a relevant qualification in computational science, data science, public health, biostatistics, genomics or cognate discipline, and have at least basic competence in programming and the Linux command line. Post-specific requirements are shown below.

DATA SCIENTIST

- At least an MSc in a relevant discipline
- Must have expertise in statistics and machine learning

PROGRAMMER

- At least a four-year degree/honors. An MSc or at least two years of programming experience would be a strong recommendation.
- Must be competent in Python and at least one other programming language and familiar with modern software practices including Git, and continuous integration.
- Desirable: Familiarity with web/GUI frameworks. Basic knowledge of SQL is desirable (we have DB people on the project)

DATA PROGRAMMER

- At least a four-year degree/honors. An MSc or at least two years programming experience would be a strong recommendation.

- Very strong programming skills. Experience and interest in managing and analysing data is a strong recommendation. This person will contribute to eLwazi's projects to build tools to support managing data and metadata systems.

All positions are renewable annually based on satisfactory performance. The data programmer is a 2-year position; the other two positions are 5-year positions.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

The application letter and supporting documents must be submitted via email addresses: **SBIMB@wits.ac.za**; Copied to: **kerry.glover@wits.ac.za**, and addressed to The Project Manager, MADIVA on or before **August 26, 2022 at 1700 hrs (EAT), 1600 (SAST)**. Applications received after this deadline will NOT be considered.