JOB POSTING – POSTDOCTORAL ASSOCIATE

Area of Research: The University of Toronto’s Department of Anthropology and Dalla Lana School of Public Health Division of Biostatistics are seeking a highly motivated Postdoctoral Associate with research experience in complex trait genetics and psychiatric genetic epidemiology to study one or more of the following topic areas under the supervision of Dr. Frank Wendt:

- The role of tandem repetitive elements in psychiatry and psychopathology
- Sex-specific etiologies of traits and disorders with internalizing symptoms such as depression, PTSD, anxiety, and thoughts and behaviors associated with death by suicide
- The impact of traumatic experiences on genetic risk for psychopathology

All projects in Dr. Wendt’s research laboratory carefully consider genetic ancestry and various additional projects may stem from questions about how we account for ancestry in complex trait research.

Ideal candidates will be friendly, hardworking, and eager to join a rapidly growing team of researchers spread across North America and Europe. Scientifically, the Postdoctoral Associate filling this role will have a strong interest in psychiatry, genetics/genomics, bioinformatics, and statistics, and a desire to work with large and deeply phenotyped datasets (individual-level and/or summary-level data) including the UK Biobank, Canadian Partnership for Tomorrow’s Health (CanPath), CARTaGENE Biobank, FinnGen, and a variety of samples available through dbGaP.

Description of Duties: This Postdoctoral Associate will be supervised by Dr. Frank Wendt, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Forensic Science, and Biostatistics with support from a team of researchers in the CANSSI (Canadian Statistical Sciences Institute) - STAGE program (Strategic Training in Advanced Genetic Epidemiology). Dr. Wendt is seeking individuals with experience analyzing SNP-array and whole exome/genome sequencing data in the context of mental health research. The selected candidate will take a leadership role in all aspects of research including cleaning and preparing large data sets, designing and executing analyses, and interpreting data, and drafting/contributing to manuscripts. Postdocs in the laboratory will be afforded a dedicated portion of their time to pursue their own research interests within these domains. Postdoctoral Associates are expected to apply for external funding and support the research initiatives of junior colleagues at the undergraduate and graduate level.

Terms: This associateship is for one (1) year with strong likelihood of extension subject to satisfactory performance evaluations. The position can commence as soon as possible. The selected applicant is entitled to 30 days of vacation per year.

Salary: $54,000 CAD plus benefits per year

Required Qualifications:
- PhD in epidemiology, statistics, mathematics, genetics/genomics, or other relevant field. Applicants with clinical degrees such as MD or PhD in Clinical Psychology are encouraged to apply.
- Proficiency in R, unix, python, and/or another commonly used computing language
- Experience working with large data sets
- Experience working with large collaborative research teams including analysts at various career stages from undergraduate to PIs at other institutions
- Excellent written and oral communication skills

**Application Instructions:** All individuals interested in this position should submit a detailed CV, cover letter (1 page) outlining their motivation and research interests, and contact information for 3 professional references to Dr. Frank Wendt at frank.wendt@utoronto.ca by November 10th, 2022.