

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Genomic Security and Privacy (GSP) at the Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology, University of Illinois

Postdoctoral Fellowship in GSP

The Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign offers a fellowship for a truly exceptional young scholar who has completed their PhD or other relevant terminal degree within the last several years, and who is looking for a stimulating and supportive interdisciplinary environment to carry out both independent and collaborative research. An IGB GSP Fellow will conduct research alongside members of the theme. A personalized mentoring plan will be developed for each Fellow. Annual salary is \$58,000, in addition to a \$7,500 research allowance. The fellowship is for two years with an additional third year based on performance.

The GSP Theme is a multi-disciplinary collaborative group that focuses on the security and privacy of genomic information. Recent years have seen a rise of a diverse collection of applications of genomics that have profound implications for individuals, society, and the future of humankind. Research on privacy-enhancing computer technologies for genomic data, forensic use of genomics by law enforcement and courts, and gene sequencing the DNA of skeletons (paleobiology) are all in practice. Even cases where security and privacy issues do not appear to be an immediate concern, profound ethical, legal, and social issues may still emerge. GSP links such diverse projects through IGB and connects the researchers involved to current and emerging cross-cutting ethical considerations.

The Fellow will work collaboratively with multiple theme faculty members on projects that examine new technical approaches to genomic data storage, analysis, and sharing, the legal frameworks surrounding genomic data, and public attitudes and concerns regarding new and existing genomic technologies. The aim is to leverage an interdisciplinary approach to genomics to develop new technologies and guidance for public policy in the area of genomic security and privacy protections. The Fellow will also be expected to take a leadership role in organizing group events and in particular mentoring students and other junior members of the team.

Preference will be given to candidates with a background in genomics or bioinformatics. A track record of high-impact journal publications and excellent communication skills are required. A demonstrated interest in cybersecurity or data privacy, especially as regards genomic data, is a plus. Applicants should submit a CV, a research statement or research proposal, and the names and contact information of three recommenders who can write letters on their behalf. This information should be sent to Professor Carl Gunter (Theme Leader), at cgunter@illinois.edu. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled. The University of Illinois is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Visit www.igb.illinois.edu for additional information.

Core Theme members

Carl Gunter, Computer Science

Aleksander Ksiazkiewicz, Political Science

Zeynep Madak-Erdogan, Food Science & Human Nutrition

Ripan Malhi, Anthropology

Saurabh Sinha, Computer Science

Robin Wilson, Law

Jacob S. Sherkow, Law