The Department of Biology at the University of Virginia invites applications for a Bioinformatics Research Analyst position to provide bioinformatics support for population and quantitative genomics projects in the Blackman laboratory. The research of the Blackman laboratory focuses on the genetic basis of domestication and adaptation, the ecology and evolution of plant development, and mechanisms of gene-environment interaction. Using sunflower and monkeyflower as study systems, current work is focused on reconstructing the genetic history of domestication through paleogenomics as well as the genetic changes and ecological pressures contributing to natural variation in developmental responses to daily and seasonal environmental cues.   
  
The analyst will work closely with the PI, collaborators, and lab personnel to design and/or implement algorithms and computational pipelines to process high-throughput sequencing datasets for population and quantitative genetics analysis or plant genome assembly. The position may also involve developing and/or running tools for phenotype scoring by automated image analysis. The analyst will also be responsible for building and maintaining databases for management of biological samples, sequencing, and phenotype data. The position also involves writing reports, presenting research results at lab meetings and conferences, data management and dissemination, administration and maintenance of computational infrastructure, mentoring graduate and undergraduate students, and related tasks in support of research projects.   
  
The position requires a Bachelor's degree in Evolutionary Biology, Genetics, Bioinformatics, Computer Science or related field. At least 8 years related lab experience, or the equivalent combination of advanced education and experience, with a minimum of two of those years of experience with bioinformatics programming tools for analysis of next generation sequencing data is required. The incumbent will demonstrate the ability to integrate across biological disciplines, identify and troubleshoot promising new methodologies independently, and be able to coordinate with multiple research staff concurrently to pursue diverse questions or types of analysis. Demonstrated expertise in programming and scripting (such as Unix and Perl and/or Python), a good understanding of high performance computing, and knowledge of probability theory are essential. Proficiency in C/C++, Javascript, R, Matlab, and/or SQL is preferred. Experience with statistical analysis, morphometrics, cluster computing, IT support, and development of web applications is highly desirable.   
  
Preferred start date is August 2014.   
  
This position is estimated to last for a year with the option of renewal contingent on the availability of funding and satisfactory performance.   
  
To apply, please submit a staff application through Jobs@UVA (https://jobs.virginia.edu) and electronically attach: curriculum vitae, a cover letter that summarizes research interests and professional goals, and contact information for three (3) references; search on posting number 0614596.   
  
Review of applications will begin July 24, 2014; however, the position will remain open until filled.   
  
Questions regarding this position should be directed to:   
Dr. Benjamin Blackman   
812-369-5045   
bkb2f@virginia.edu   
http://people.virginia.edu/~bkb2f/Blackman\_Lab/   
  
Questions regarding the Staff application process or Jobs@UVA should be directed to:   
Rich Haverstrom   
rkh6j@virginia.edu   
  
The University of Virginia is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are encouraged to apply.