1. Announcements

- **Course backpack** begins on Mon., Nov. 16 and registration begins on Mon., Nov. 23. You must be registered for at least 1 class before the Winter term begins (Jan. 6), in order to avoid a late registration fee. A schedule of classes can be found here: [http://ro.umich.edu/schedule/](http://ro.umich.edu/schedule/).

- **New Bioinformatics course** next Winter term! Prof. Rajapakse is teaching “Mathematics of Biological Networks” (BIOINF 800) next Winter term. More information can be found on the program website: [http://www.ccmb.med.umich.edu/node/1533](http://www.ccmb.med.umich.edu/node/1533).

- The Bioinformatics Ph.D. Program adheres to the PIBS vacation policy. Ph.D. students receive a 12 month stipend and are expected to conduct research throughout the Spring/Summer term. If you wish to take a vacation, dates must first be approved by your mentor. For first year students who do not yet have a mentor, a vacation should not be planned while classes are in session unless there is a family emergency. A note of caution: for international students requiring a new visa to re-enter the U.S., it is increasingly common to wait 1 - 2 months after your visa appt. for “special administrative processing.” Consequently, travel abroad over Christmas would be ill-advised - especially for students who are registered for classes in addition to a research rotation. Please communicate with your adviser(s) and the Program Directors of any travel plans, when the time arises.

2. Workshops + Seminars

- **Rackham Professional Development Workshop**
  
  Facilitator: Tom Magaldi, Career & Professional Development at Memorial Sloan Kettering
  
  Wed., Nov. 18, 3:00pm to 4:00pm
  
  Common Room, Lower Level, Rackham Building

  Professional development is the process of gaining important skills and experience that will help advance your career. Sometimes this involves developing skills that are not immediately relevant to your research. However, the pressure to publish your research or graduate on time can make professional development appear to be a luxury. Come to this talk to develop methods for pursing professional development opportunities that do not interfere with your academic priorities. This workshop is co-sponsored by the Chemistry Professional Development Organization and Rackham. Dr. Tom Magaldi is the Administrator of the Office of Career Services at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC). There he develops, coordinates, implements and evaluates career and professional development services and activities for MSKCC postdoctoral researchers and graduate students. Tom was also the Director of Science Alliance, the professional development branch of the NYAS. There, he developed and implemented innovative workshops and courses that provide early career scientists with a range of business skills essential for all careers. Dr. Magaldi received his Ph.D. in Genetics from Yale University and was a postdoc at the National Cancer Institute. Tom has also worked as an Adjunct Professor of Biology at Montgomery College and the University of the District of Columbia.
In addition, he has worked as an Executive Board Member for the Career Network for Science Ph.D.s at Yale, an organization that provided networking and internship opportunities for young scientists at Yale. **Pre-registration is required** at [https://secure.rackham.umich.edu/Events/wsreg.php?ws_id=304](https://secure.rackham.umich.edu/Events/wsreg.php?ws_id=304).

- **Bring Your Genes to Cal: How an Educational Program Was Drawn Into the Public Debate over Genetic Testing**  
  Presenter: UM President Mark Schlissel, M.D., Ph.D.  
  Mon., Nov. 30  
  4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.  
  Kahn Auditorium, BSRB  
  Commentators:  
  David Ginsburg, MD  
  James V. Neel Distinguished University Professor Internal Medicine and Human Genetics  
  and  
  J. Scott Roberts, PhD  
  Associate Professor, Health Behavior and Health Education

3. **Fellowships, Grants, and Awards**  
   - **Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant**  
     The Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant supports Rackham graduate students who need assistance to carry out research that advances their progress toward their degree. The grant is intended to defray costs of conducting clearly defined research projects. A doctoral student is eligible for two Rackham Graduate Student Research Grants during his or her graduate program, one before candidacy and one as a candidate.  
     - Pre-candidates are eligible for an award up to $1,500  
     - Candidates are eligible for an award up to $3,000  
     Applications are accepted at any time. For more information and the application link, visit:  
       [http://www.rackham.umich.edu/funding/from_rackham/student_application/graduate_student_research_grant/](http://www.rackham.umich.edu/funding/from_rackham/student_application/graduate_student_research_grant/).

   - **Rackham Travel Grant**  
     If you are presenting a poster or paper at a conference, you’re eligible for **Rackham Travel Grant Funds**! You must apply BEFORE the conference begins. Information here:  
       [http://www.rackham.umich.edu/funding/conference-travel-grant](http://www.rackham.umich.edu/funding/conference-travel-grant)  
     A useful guide for funding for Bioinformatics Ph.D. students is also available in the Bioinformatics Student Information C-Tools folder.

4. **Other Useful Information**  
   - **Winter course of interest: WRITING 630: Advanced Writing for Graduate Students**  
     Writing 630 is designed for graduate students who have made significant progress in their degree programs and are thinking about larger, ongoing writing projects: a prospectus, a conference paper, or an article for publication. Writing 630 targets projects that are as essential to a graduate student’s success, but are not part of the dissertation.  
     The first five weeks will be spent in a traditional discussion forum, reviewing the basics of clear academic writing and of the demands of writing in graduate school. Topics will include argumentation, drafting, revision, grammar, audience, tone, and incorporating sources. During the next four to five weeks you will share portions of your work, in class, for peer review and discussion. These meetings will focus on the materials you have been working on during the semester. The course will then progress to individual conferences with the instructor to discuss the results of the peer reviews and their application to your work.  
     **To apply:** please complete a hard copy of the application form and return it along with 5 pages of academic writing (excerpts from longer works are welcome) to Laura Schuyler, Sweetland Center for Writing, 1310 North Quad, 1285. **Electronic applications will not be accepted.**
Submission deadline: Monday, November 30, 2015.
Decisions will be made and students notified by December 11, 2015.

Questions? Contact Laura Schuyler, schuyler@umich.edu.
The Writing 630 application is available on the Sweetland website:
http://www.lsa.umich.edu/sweetland/graduate/courses/writing630

5. Job Opportunities
• Research Area Specialist Intermediate, Division of Gastroenterology, University of Michigan

Responsibilities
The Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology, invites applications for a staff scientist to work on genetic epidemiology projects related to obesity, liver disease, and cardiovascular disease. Work will involve leading analyses related to human genetic data from genotyping and next generation sequencing platforms at the genome wide level. Work will involve integration of genomic data with expression, metabolomics, and regulatory motif data.

Qualifications:
A strong quantitative background with a degree in Biostatistics, Genetics, Epidemiology, Computer Programming or a related discipline is required. Knowledge of statistics, programming, and human genetics with experience with statistical software and management of large datasets is desirable. Familiarity with a Unix/Linux environment is a must. A strong work ethic, the ability to work independently combined with willingness to work in a highly interactive and collegial group is needed. Excellent written and oral communication skills is beneficial as is post-doctoral training and other professional experience. This is an opportunity to work in a challenging and rewarding research area that constantly poses new scientific and statistical problems.

To apply: Applicants should email/send resume, academic transcripts (if graduated within the last 5 years), and at least three letters of reference to: Elizabeth Speliotes M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H., c/o Jeff Cole 6520E MSRB I, SPC 56822 1150 West Medical Center Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-56822, email: jcole@med.umich.edu. Applicant review will begin immediately and continue until the positions are filled. The University of Michigan is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

• Postdoctoral Fellow, Division of Gastroenterology, University of Michigan

The Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology, invites applications for a post-doctoral fellow to work on genetic epidemiology projects related to obesity, liver disease, and cardiovascular disease. Work will involve leading analyses related to human genetic data from genotyping and next generation sequencing platforms at the genome wide level. Work will involve integration of genomic data with expression, metabolomics, and regulatory motif data.

Qualifications include a PhD degree in Biostatistics, Genetics, Epidemiology, Computer Programming or a related discipline; knowledge of statistics, programming, and human genetics as well as experience with statistical software and management of large datasets is highly desirable. Familiarity with a Unix/Linux environment is a must. The ability to work independently combined with willingness to work in a highly interactive and collegial group is helpful as are excellent written and oral communication skills. This is an opportunity to work in a challenging and rewarding research area that constantly poses new scientific and statistical problems.

To apply: Applicants should email/send resume, academic transcripts (if graduated within the last 5 years), and at least three letters of reference to: Elizabeth Speliotes M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H., c/o Jeff Cole 6520E MSRB I, SPC 56822 1150 West Medical Center Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-56822, email: jcole@med.umich.edu. Applicant review will begin immediately and continue until the positions are filled. The University of Michigan is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.
• **2 Postdoc positions: University of Cambridge Metabolic Research Laboratories**
Two high calibre postdocs with experience in human genetics who are either interested in genomics / computational biology or in classical rare disease genetics, interpretation of exome/genome sequencing are available.

Inquires should be sent to Dr. Farooqi.

Prof. Sadaf Farooqi PhD, FRCP, FMedSci
Wellcome Trust Senior Clinical Fellow and Professor of Metabolism and Medicine
University of Cambridge Metabolic Research Laboratories
Level 4, Wellcome Trust-MRC Institute of Metabolic Science
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Cambridge CB2 0QQ
United Kingdom
Email: isf20@cam.ac.uk

GOOS website: www.goos.org.uk

• **Postdoctoral Investigator, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, Florida Atlantic Univ.**
Florida Atlantic University’s Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, located in Ft. Pierce, FL, seeks a highly self-motivated Postdoctoral Investigator to study marine natural product biosynthesis within the Marine Biomedical and Biotechnology Research program. Our aim is to identify gene clusters responsible for the biosynthesis of marine natural products, to characterize key catalytic machineries involved, and to engineer related metabolic pathways. Interdisciplinary approaches of Genetics, Biochemistry and Chemistry will be applied. The initial job appointment is one year. Renewal is possible based on available funding and work performance.

More details and application information can be found here: http://jobs.sciencecareers.org/job/385749/postdoctoral-investigator-in-biosynthesis-01002543/

• **Multiple faculty positions, Univ. of Texas Health Science Center @ Houston**
The School of Biomedical Informatics (SBMI) at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) is excited to announce a minimum of four tenured/tenure-track faculty positions. Funding for these positions has been appropriated by the Texas Legislature to enhance biomedical and health informatics education and research in the State of Texas in the era of big data and precision medicine.

All interested parties should apply at: https://jobs.uth.tmc.edu (search Requisition #160616 for the Center for Precision Health faculty posts).

For questions, please contact Judy Young at judy.e.young@uth.tmc.edu.

• **Bioinformatics Scientist, Vedanta Biosciences**
Vedanta is looking for a talented bioinformatician to translate discoveries in microbiology and mucosal immunology into new treatments for a range of immune and infectious diseases. The candidate will design studies to establish the role of the microbiome in immune-mediated diseases; develop bioinformatics, statistical, and data processing algorithms to evaluate molecular and cellular pathways of host-microbe interactions; develop statistical models that correlate complex microbial signatures with phenotypic and clinical data to create testable hypotheses; create scientifically accurate and clear visualizations of results. The job title and level will be corresponding to education level, work experience, and skills of the selected candidate.

Information about the company and application details can be found here.

• **Computational Biologist, Broad Institute**
The Broad Institute has sever Computational Biologist positions available. Interested applicants should visit https://www.broadinstitute.org/careers.
• **Tenure-track faculty positions, Univ. of Florida**

The Department of CISE in the College of Engineering at the University of Florida is recruiting multiple tenure-track faculty positions at the level of Associate and Full Professor in the major thrust areas of “Big Data,” “Personalized Learning” and “Social Networks Analysis.” The ideal candidate will take innovative approaches to interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research and teaching. Full details and application procedures can be found here: [http://explore.jobs.ufl.edu/cw/en-us/job/492426/asofull-prof](http://explore.jobs.ufl.edu/cw/en-us/job/492426/asofull-prof).

• **Computational Biologists and Machine Learning/Statistical Experts with Experience in Biological Applications**, Immuneering, Corp.

Immuneering, Corp. has multiple positions available focusing on computational biology, machine learning, next-gen sequencing, and other areas of expertise. For details and application information, please visit: [http://www.immuneering.com/careers/](http://www.immuneering.com/careers/).