Research Associate in Statistical Genetics and Bioinformatics, - Ref: 1704024

We are recruiting a talented statistical geneticist/bioinformatician with excellent communication skills to determine the genetic basis of complex phenotypes in rice and chickpea, with the aim of improving these important crops. The methodologies developed by the project will apply to many other crops and animals.

The post is funded by the UK Global Challenges Research Fund and the BBSRC. The post-holder will join the group of Richard Mott in the Genetics Institute (UGI) at University College London (UCL), and will work in close collaboration with the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Philippines, and the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), India, and the National Institute for Agricultural Botany (NIAB), Cambridge. The project will involve visits to both IRRI and ICRISAT.

The project focuses on (i) the imputation of genome sequence from crop populations sequenced at low coverage, adapting methods developed previously in the group (e.g. Davies et al Nature Genetics 2015) (ii) the use of low-coverage population sequence to identify structural variants implicated in phenotypes (Imprialou et al Genetics 2017) (iii) The development and implementation of quantitative genetics and genomic prediction methods in crop development, particularly in relation to multiparental advanced intercrosses (MAGIC populations. (iv) Close collaboration, support and knowledge exchange with partner laboratories.

Applicants must have a PhD in Statistical Genetics, Bioinformatics or a related field, and a good understanding of genetic association mapping, and experience of manipulating and analysing Next-Gen sequence data. It is essential candidates demonstrate programming fluency in R, Perl/Python, or C/C++.  The successful candidate must have experience of conducting research in statistical genetics or bioinformatics, and in managing long-distance collaborations effectively.

The post is available from now until 30 June 2021 with possibility of extension.

Salary Grade7 £34,635 - £41,864 per annum (inclusive of London allowance)

Closing Date: 2 February 2018

Further details and application form available from <https://tinyurl.com/y7sqh3rr> Please ensure you read these carefully before applying for the post as candidates must meet all essential criteria to be considered.

If you would like to discuss the post please contact Professor Richard Mott, r.mott@ucl.ac.uk