Self-financing PhD student position to project within fish transcriptomics

Duration: 3 years, starting January 01, 2013

Faculty of Biosciences and Aquaculture (FBA), University of Nordland, Bodø, Norway, seeks a candidate for PhD study in connection with research project **Role of small non-coding RNA in fish development: comparative study on regulatory mechanisms** financed by parts by the Research Council of Norway (FRIMEDBIO program) and University of Nordland.

The general objective of the project is to understand the importance of small, non-protein coding RNA (ncRNA), with emphasis on microRNA, in the regulation of ray-finned fish development through comparative and functional studies. Four teleost species, representing distant phylogenetic lineages, will be studied: zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) – main model for functional studies, Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*) and Atlantic halibut (*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*) – marine Teleostei species, and spotted gar (*Lepisosteus oculatus*), a Holostei fish serving as evolutionary outgroup for the three other species. The approach is a combination of computational and functional studies, including high-throughput sequencing and cutting edge functional genomics tools. The project involves state-of-the-art infrastructure resources and international top-level expertise in vertebrate genome evolution.

The PhD student is offered an exciting opportunity to work in international team on new areas of developmental regulatory mechanisms, with potential high impact to biomedicine, as well as biotechnology and aquaculture industries. Considerable part of the study will be conducted at the University of Oregon, Institute of Neuroscience.

The project does not offer a scholarship; therefore, **self financing capability is a prerequisite**. Admission to FBA's PhD study program is tuition-free; however, a candidate should provide, through externally funded scholarship or other funding source, evidence for capability to cover her/his living expenses during the residence period in Norway. The information about this requirement is given at (http://www.hibo.no/index.php?ID=12457).

A prospective candidate should be highly motivated, creative, and enjoying work in international environment. Prior experience with genomics, transcriptomics, bioinformatics, or fish experimental embryology techniques is in advantage. Background in relevant knowledge areas is in advantage. Top grade MSc thesis from a recognized institution in the field is in advantage.

The recruitment process is continuous until selecting the suitable candidate. Persons interested in the position, please contact Prof. Igor Babiak (igor.babiak@uin.no), project leader (inquiries related to research, project, and requirements) or Gøril Frømyr Borgen (goril.fromyr.borgen@uin.no), FBA administrative advisor (financial and administrative issues).