

Dr. Juan Antonio Vizcaíno
Proteomics Team Leader

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Cambridge, 12 March 2020

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to formally confirm that Mr. Javan Okendo will receive a stipend of £1000 per month during his internship in my team.

I am currently leading the Proteomics Team at EMBL-European Bioinformatics Institute (EMBL-EBI). My team maintains and develops the PRIDE database (<https://www.ebi.ac.uk/pride>), the world-leading public database for mass spectrometry (MS) proteomics data (as part of the ProteomeXchange Consortium). In addition, we support open science practises by developing data standards, open-source software (e.g. different libraries, open analysis pipelines) and stand-alone tools to handle proteomics data and make the most of the increasing number of proteomics datasets in the public domain.

If you need any further information, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Most sincerely,



Signed: Juan Antonio Vizcaíno, Ph.D.

JAVAN OCHIENG' OKENDO CV

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Personal Statement

I am a PhD Candidate within the Chemical and Systems biology Division at the University of Cape Town with focus on Proteoinformatics and Bioinformatics. I am also an MSc (**with distinction**) in Bioinformatics graduate from the University of Cape Town, South Africa. I have a passion for Big Data analysis and biomedical research. I have worked as a Research Assistant at the Centre for research in therapeutic Sciences, Strathmore University. I have also worked as a tutor at the University of Cape Town. My personal mission is to develop individual and Organizational capacities for positive societal transformation.

Work Experience: All my work experience has involved working within a team-based culture. I have worked in the following institutions:

- January, 2020- Information Technology manager, Mutual Financial Analysis, Cape Town, South Africa
- May/2019-September/2019: Bioinformatician, Novartis Institute of Biomedical Research, Basel Switzerland
- 2017-2018: Website Content manager, H3ABioNet Africa, Cape Town, South Africa
- Jan/2018-December 2018: Research Assistant, Groote Schuur Hospital, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2013-2016: Research Assistant, Host and Genetics Lab, Strathmore University, Nairobi, Kenya

Education

2020: University of Cape Town- PhD candidate in Systems and Chemical Biology (**continuing**)

2018: University of Cape Town-MScMed (**with distinction**) in Bioinformatics

2016: Kenyatta University (BSC in Molecular and Cell Biology)

2010: St Erin Raha Secondary school (K.C.S.E)

2005: Nyaduong Primary School (K.C.P.E)

Proficiency: Bioinformatics analysis of Big Data different pipelines, R and python programming languages, Experimental analysis using molecular Biology techniques.

Prestigious awards

1. Developing Excellence in Leadership and Genetic Training for Malaria Elimination in Sub-Saharan Africa (DELGEME) Scholarship Award to undertake Masters degree training at the University of Cape Town
2. South Africa National Research Fund Scholarship award to Undertake PhD at the University of Cape Town
3. Higher Education Loans Board Scholarship award to undertake Bachelors degree at Kenyatta University, Kenya
4. Welcome Trust Travel award to Attend the Oversees Training at the University of Malawi College of Medicine, Blantyr Malawi
5. American Society of Tropical Medicine Travel Award to attend ASTMH conference in Louisiana New Orleans, USA
6. 11th Conference of African Society of Human Genetics (AfSHG) travel award held at Kigali Convention Centre in Kigali, Rwanda
7. Next Generation scientist training grant award, Basel Switzelands

PUBLICATIONS

1. David L. Tabb, Brandon Murugan, Javan Okendo, Omesan Nair, Jonathan M. Blackburn, Sindisiwe Buthelezi and Stoyan Stoychev. Open Search unveils modification patterns in Formalin-Fixed, Paraffin-Embedded Thermo HCD and SCIEX TripleTOF shotgun proteomes
2. Kimulwo MJ, **Okendo J**, Aman RA, Ogutu BR, Kokwaro GO, Ochieng DJ, Muigai AW, Oloo FA, Ochieng W. Plasma nevirapine concentrations predict virological and adherence failure in Kenyan HIV-1 infected patients with extensive antiretroviral treatment exposure. PLoS One. 2017 Feb 24;12(2):e0172960. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0172960. eCollection 2017. PubMed PMID: 28235021; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC5325546.
3. Nzomo TJ, Kitawi RC, Mwatelah RS, Aman R, Kimulwo MJ, Masankwa G, **Okendo J**, Lwembe RM, Ogutu B, Muigai A, Ochieng W. Genotypic Variability of HIV-1 Reverse Transcriptase Gene from Long-Term Antiretroviral-Experienced Patients in Kenya. AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses. 2015 May;31(5):550-3. doi: 10.1089/AID.2015.0031. Epub 2015 Mar 31. PubMed PMID: 25748548; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4426303.
4. Kitawi RC, Nzomo T, Mwatelah RS, Aman R, Kimulwo MJ, Masankwa G, Lwembe RM, **Okendo J**, Ogutu B, Ochieng W. HIV-1 subtype diversity based on envelope C2V3 sequences from Kenyan patients on highly active antiretroviral therapy. AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses. 2015 Apr;31(4):452-5. doi: 10.1089/AID.2014.0306. Epub 2014 Dec 18. PubMed PMID: 25423998.

REFEREES

1. Professor Nicola Mulder, Computational Biology Division, University of Cape Town, Email: nicola.mulder@uct.ac.za
2. Professor Jonathan Blackburn, Institute of Infectious Diseases and Molecular Medicine, University of Cape Town, Email: jonathan.blackburn@uct.ac.za.
3. Professor Washington Ochieng, Harvard University School of Public Health, Email: ochiengwashington@gmail.com

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To Whom It May Concern
University of Cape Town

31 January 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Mr Javan Okendo

I am happy to confirm that I have agreed to supervise Javan Okendo for his PhD studies in my group in the Institute of Infectious Disease & Molecular Medicine, University of Cape Town, from 1 July 2018 onwards. I further confirm that I will provide Javan with a PhD bursary of R120,000 per annum for three years (comprised of an NRF grant holder-linked bursary and a departmental top up) and that I will support his running costs from my NRF Research Chair grant.

Javan's PhD project is entitled "Integration of clinical, immunological and omic datasets from tuberculosis patients to provide new insight into the drivers of TB disease transmission".

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries on this.

Yours sincerely

Professor Jonathan Blackburn
South African Research Chair in Applied Proteomics & Chemical Biology