OMB No. 0925-0001 and 0925-0002 (Rev. 03/2020 Approved Through 02/28/2023)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.  
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.**

NAME: Jolien Rietkerk

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login): jolien.rietkerk

POSITION TITLE: PhD student

EDUCATION/TRAINING (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)

| INSTITUTION AND LOCATION | DEGREE  (if applicable) | Completion Date  MM/YYYY | FIELD OF STUDY |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| University of Groningen, NL | B.A. | 08/2018 | Science and Engineering (Biology) |
| University of Utrecht, NL | Msc. | 08/2020 | Life Sciences (Molecular Biology) |
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**A. Personal Statement**

**The complex interactions of molecules has always fascinated me. From studying protein interactions in my bachelor to studying genetic interactions in my master research project and human genetic networks in my master thesis, I have learned that everything is connected in biology. I have found a passion for research, questioning the fundamental ways of research to have a greater impact on health. My broad orientation and high affinity with bioinformatic studies from my specializations make me a highly qualified aspiring bioinformatician.**

**It is with this motivation and passion that I am currently researching gene-gene interactions in psychiatric diseases. As a start to my research, I am applying a new method to detect Coordinated Interaction in human genetic data to uncover gene-gene interactions as part of the etiology of Major Depressive Disorder.**

**B. Positions and Honors**

## Positions and Employment

2018 Intern to research the predictive power of Gene Methylation on Gene Expression, Human

Genetics department, University Medical Center Groningen, Netherlands

## 2018-2019 Intern to research the method of Chromosome Conformation Capture applied in *Arabidopsis Thaliana* rhizosphere samples, Plant-Mircrobe Interactions, University of Utecht, Netherlands

**C. Contributions to Science**

**-**

**D. Additional Information: Research Support and/or Scholastic Performance**

**Ongoing Research Support  
Employment contract with Na Cai research group. 01/11/2020 – 31/10/2023**

**Role: PhD student**