Jonas **Falck**

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Steven Castelein   *August 30, 2023*

RADBOUD UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER – GENOMEDIAGNOSTICS

Application: Genomediagnostics Bioinformatician at Radboud University Medical Center

Dear drs. Steven Castelein

About Me

After completing my civil service duty, I moved from Germany to the Netherlands to study medical biology in Nijmegen. I completed my bachelor's degree and began my master's in medical biology at the Radboud University. During this time, both in- and outside of university, I focused on developing IT skills such as setting up and managing headless Linux systems, programming with a focus on bioinformatics, machine learning and dynamic websites. I honed my bioinformatic skills during my master's internships in the Radboud UMC human genetics department, as well as in the comparative genomics group. Due to financial and personal reasons, I started working in logistics and was unable to finish my master's degree. However, I am determined to pursue my passion for human biology and IT and work in a field that allows me to utilize my potential while having a greater societal impact. Apart from my professional goals, I enjoy going to concerts, bouldering, and most importantly, spending time with my friends and family.

Why Genomediagnostics at Radboud UMC:

Genomediagnostics combines the fields that I am passionate about - human biology, (sequencing-)technology. In Nijmegen, the town I call my home, the Radboud UMC provides cutting-edge diagnostics, research, and patient care and I would be proud to be involved in that process. As a trained biologist and a family member of a cancer patient, I understand the importance of making informed decisions based on the best available data. In the genomediagnostics department, data meeting the highest standards is generated and I could utilize my skills to ensure a smooth production environment. Building on my experience in bioinformatics and with Linux servers, I could get hands-on experience with a large compute cluster and workflow management systems. Moreover, I could support co-workers who may have less knowledge of bioinformatics or difficulty interpreting the data we generate. I value collaborating with international and interdisciplinary teams to exchange knowledge and provide support to each others. Based on my internships, I know that this is possible at Radboud UMC. Therefore, I would like to join your team at the genome diagnostics department.

Why Me?

While my career path may not have been straightforward, I have gained a lot of experience along the way, making me the ideal candidate for this position. I am not only highly motivated to work in diagnostics with big sequencing-data and big computers, but I also possess the necessary technical skills for working on server infrastructure, with large amounts of data and analyzing complex omics data. As such, I have experience in setting up and working with headless Linux systems and containerized applications, as well as programming/scripting in R, Python, bash and the command line. I have used numerous Bioconductor packages and command-line tools commonly used in bioinformatic analysis. Developing my own R package (see CV), working on hobby projects and supporting friends and peers on technical issues have given me ample troubleshooting experience. Furthermore, I have experience in communicating bioinformatic methods and results to researchers, regardless of their background in bioinformatics. I am intrinsically motivated to learn and take pride in my autodidacticism, which has enabled me to acquire most of the skills presented in my CV. While I value being able to work independently, I also appreciate having knowledgeable peers around to discuss stubborn problems. As a hands-on and down-to-earth person, as well as a hard worker, I would be pleased to meet with you in March. Sincerely,

Jonas Falck