

# Rick Farouni | Cover Letter

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**Ontario Institute for Cancer Research**  
Toronto, ON

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Dear Sir or Madam:

I am very interested in the bioinformatics and cancer research postdoctoral fellow position currently available with the integrative network biology lab. I am currently a doctoral candidate in quantitative psychology (i.e. statistics applied to psychological data) at the Ohio State University, where I have also earned a masters degree in mathematical statistics.

Although my training is focused on statistics and its applications to behavioral and neuroimaging data, I have worked with and analyzed bioinformatics data for almost a year now. Last summer, I completed the Department of Biomedical Informatics Summer Internship Program (BMI SIP) at the lab of Professor Ewy Mathé, where I worked on developing an R package for the workflow analysis of data generated from genome-wide chromatin accessibility assays such as ATAC-seq and DNase-seq. The project was completed on time and resulted both in a software and paper. We have made the software available on Github (<https://github.com/Mathelab/ALTRE>) and our paper, on which I am a first co-author, has been just accepted for publication in the journal Bioinformatics.

My rigorous training in statistics, my scientific computing and coding skills ranging from software development to running complex pipelines on supercomputing clusters, and my varied experience in analyzing large datasets both in neuroimaging and functional genomics are three aspects of my application which I believe make me an excellent match for the position. In addition, I believe I have a good understanding of the fundamentals of genomics and more importantly, a deep interest in gene regulation and how it is affected in diseases such as cancer. I hope that my application earns me your full consideration for the advertised position.

For more information about me and for examples of some previous projects I have worked on, please visit my website provided at the top of this letter.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours faithfully,

**Rick Farouni**