

Theresa Wohlever
5006 Valencia Drive
Toledo, OH 43623
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Jonathan Jacobs, PhD.
ATCC
4217 Perry Pkwy Ste 5
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Dear Jonathan Jacobs, PhD.,


I joyfully began my career at the Broad Institute on the Human Microbiome Project weeks after graduating with my Bachelor's degree in bioinformatics. I adored the culture. Everyone exuded excitement for discovery through their challenging pursuit of biological truth; every project promised meaningful impact. This was the mission that inspired me during my undergraduate challenges at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; I was living my dream! Unfortunately, that dream ran into a wall of student loan debt. I was exhausted from working a second job, so I left the non-profit sector for a 30% salary increase and for-profit pressure. With a significantly improved financial situation, I'm hopeful I can return to a culture focused on the public good that I continue to consider home.

The skills I've acquired through my employment history make me an extraordinary fit for the Senior Bioinformatician role you've advertised. As an assembly analyst in the Human Microbiome Consortium I was primarily responsible for textitde novo assembling draft bacterial genomes. Due to read length constraints with Illumina (then Solexa) we depended on 454 for this work. I not only developed Perl libraries for my team to parse Newbler output files, I also spearheaded pipelining essential components for LIMS exported data to automate quality checks for sample swaps, contamination, sequencer specific issues, etc. After nearly five years at The Broad, I moved on to the CLC bio Application Support team where I successfully guided customers in answering biological questions addressed with contemporary sequencing technologies (Next-Gen Sequencing). These included genomic resequencing analysis, transcriptomics, whole genome finishing, and de novo sequencing.

While I enjoyed the breadth of challenges, I transitioned to the Custom Solutions team in 2016 where I was able to focus on both clinical and agricultural applications. Through these five years I've grown as a project manager such that I am not managing an intercontinental team of six while sustaining QIAGEN's relationship with multiple clients generating millions of USD in revenue. Most notably I've fostered a symbiotic relationship with the Vice President of bioinformatics for a company with more than 20 billion USD market capitalization. I've sustained this relationship while managing an intercontinental team of 6. The many hurdles I've overcome in partnership with this client have lead me to refocus my career. I value scientific discovery over profit; now that for-profit requirements have lessened in my personal life, I'd like my career path to reflect the non-profit nature of my dream job.

I am interested in your Senior Bioinformatician role to pursue our joint mission of propelling life science research into the future and to broaden my experience with bioinformatic tools. I recognize my experience may be more extensive than you would anticipate given this position's requirements; that is entirely intentional. The high stress nature of my current role conflicts with my home-life priorities and the company culture I am seeking. I desire a position that continues to leverage my strengths, satisfies my passion for supporting therapeutic improvements through rigorous scientific discovery, yet allows me to participate in my children's lives more fully. Thank you for your consideration of my application.

Best wishes,


Theresa Wohlever