Position available:

Post-doctoral researcher, PhD or MSc student with interests in some combination of aging biology, evolution, complexity, statistics, and clinical algorithms

Supervisor:

Alan A. Cohen

I am a researcher at the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at the University of Sherbrooke and I have funding for a post-doctoral researcher, PhD, or MSc student. I will accept any candidate whose interests overlap sufficiently with mine, who is motivated, and who has demonstrated an exceptional capacity for research. I will give you free reign to pursue almost any project you want, within my basic spheres of interest (aging, evolution, physiological complexity, biomarkers, clinical algorithms, physiological ecology, demography, etc.). The sole clear requirement is that you need to have demonstrated substantial applied quantitative skills (statistics, mathematical modeling, simulations, etc.), or, for MSc students, at least to have a marked interest to learn it.

Examples of current projects in the lab: 1) Multivariate statistical approaches to integrate biomarker data and detect underlying (latent) processes in the complex systems dynamics affecting aging; 2) Applying critical transition theory in clinical time series to detect early warning signs of physiological collapse; 3) Linking dietary patterns to physiological aging; 4) Using ecological models on complex systems to understand the immune system as a whole; 5) Understanding links between ageism and aging rate.

You will have access to the excellent data sets available in this lab, including (1) some of the world’s foremost data on aging human cohorts (e.g. Women’s Health and Aging Study, InCHIANTI, Baltimore Longitudinal Study on Aging, NuAge, UK Biobank, CARTaGENE, Singapore Longitudinal Ageing Study) and (2) excellent clinical data on large populations, including clinical biomarker data. (Some restrictions on data use apply via agreements with our collaborators.)

Research will be carried out within my research team, which is also affiliated to the CIUSSS Research Center on Aging and the CHUS Research Center. Quebec and Canada offer a number of excellent opportunities for prestigious fellowships. A competitive salary and working conditions will be offered even in the absence of a fellowship. Sherbrooke is a university town nestled in the beautiful Eastern Townships of the Province of Quebec, close to the US border and just a short drive away from Montreal and Quebec City. The University of Sherbrooke provides an exceptional quality of work and life environment: cost of living is low, with excellent access to outdoor activities. The institution is French-speaking, and while knowledge of French is not a prerequisite, a good-faith effort to learn the language would be expected.
If you are interested, I strongly encourage you to look carefully at our website to make sure your research interests are a fit for the lab, and that the lab policies and philosophy are attractive to you:

http://alancohen.recherche.usherbrooke.ca/en/home/

Applicants should forward their complete curriculum vitae, a brief (1 page) description of their research interests and academic goals, as well as contact information for 3 references. All applications will be given full consideration until a suitable candidate has been chosen. Start date is flexible but sooner is preferable.

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