Center for Cancer Research
Radiation Oncology Branch

NATIONAL® CANCER INSTITUTE

May10th, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

It is a pleasure to write a letter in support of the Bioinformatics Support Group (BSG) in the Advanced Biomedical Computing Center (ABCC) of the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Our collaboration with them began in 2008 on a project involving the development of MAQuery software application, a visualization web portal that stores and displays microarray data researched by the NCI ROB and outside collaborators. Robert Stephens, the director of the Bioinformatics Support Group (BSG) has assigned a dedicated yellow-task staff of ABCC: Seth Johnson to take on the project, which is anticipated to go into production by summer, 2010, and is anticipated to help research and microarray data analysis in the lab and outside. In addition to that, another dedicated yellow-task staff of ABCC, Shuping Zhao was also assigned to us to help the lab to run the core microarray facility as well as the front-end microarray data preprocessing and preliminary analysis. Both ABCC yellow-task staffs have significantly helped the lab with microarray and other high-throughput data-related projects, and have become one of the essential working forces for the lab to be productive in cancer research.

Although originally developed by ABCC dedicated yellow-task staff for our lab. MAQuery portal potentially will be widely used not only by researchers in our lab, but also by researchers around the NCI and other cancer research communities. This is an example of a yellow-task effort dedicated support person being leveraged by the ABCC/BSG to provide valuable tools to not only NCI/NIH community, but also the entire cancer research community around the world. On the other hand, due to the extensive bioinformatics resources in terms of analysis capacity and annotation databases available at ABCC, it is anticipated that our collaboration with ABCC would be even stronger and tighter for a more productive future for our lab.

Sincerely

May 10, 2010.

Uma Shankavaram
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