



SCHOOL of MEDICINE



Director of Computational Genomics

Position Summary

The University of Virginia [Comprehensive Cancer Center](#) (UVACCC) and the [Center for Public Health Genomics](#) (CPHG) seek a computational biologist to serve as **Director of Computational Genomics** (tenured or tenure-eligible Associate Professor or Professor) in the UVACCC. We are seeking candidates with a Ph.D. and/or M.D. in Computational Biology, Bioinformatics, Genetics, Genomics, or a related field. The candidate will join the leadership of the Cancer Center and oversee cancer genomics research and direct precision medicine initiatives in the UVACCC. We seek to recruit faculty from diverse backgrounds and faculty who value diversity.

Candidates are expected to have a nationally recognized, outstanding, highly collaborative, and extramurally funded research program commensurate with their career stage that addresses contemporary problems in basic and translational cancer biology through computational genomics research. The successful candidate will be responsible for facilitating collaborations within Departments and Centers in the [UVA School of Medicine](#) (SOM) and between groups across UVA (School of Data Science, Department of Computer Science, Department of Biomedical Engineering, etc.). It is expected that the person will serve as an interface between clinical genomics and research efforts, as well as supporting the educational missions of the UVACCC and CPHG. Support will include an attractive start-up package, state-of-the-art computational laboratory space, and resources to expand the genomics infrastructure at UVA and recruit additional tenure-track faculty in cancer genomics.

Candidate Profile: Ideal Experience

- Excellence in Cancer Computational Genomics: Proven track record conducting ground-breaking and innovative computational cancer genomics research commensurate with career stage (either Associate Professor or Professor).
- Excellence in leading scientists: Demonstrated ability to serve in a leadership role. Ability to develop, along with other UVACCC and CPHG leadership, a strategic direction for cancer computational genomics research at UVA. Promote collaboration within the SOM and beyond and coordinate existing cancer computational genomics research efforts.
- Recruitment and Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Demonstrated track record of faculty recruitment and a commitment to DEI.

About The Organization



Located in the heart of Virginia, Charlottesville offers a small-town feel surrounding the acclaimed University of Virginia and UVA Hospital, which are both consistently ranked among the best in the nation. We can now add another accolade to a long list. On February 1, 2022, the UVA Cancer Center was officially NCI-designated as a Comprehensive Cancer Center (UVACCC), joining an elite group of 52 and becoming the first and only one in the state.

Nestled between the flatlands of the East Coast and the peaks of the Blue Ridge

Mountains, Charlottesville benefits from stunning mountain-top views just minutes from one of the country's oldest pedestrian malls — the Downtown Mall. Thomas Jefferson, our nation's third president, built his home, Monticello, just outside the city and then watched the construction on the University of Virginia, which was founded in 1819, with his telescope. Each year on July 4th, Monticello hosts a naturalization ceremony that is open to everyone.

With over 27,000 undergrad and graduate students, UVA offers degrees from 12 schools — the most recently added is the School of Data Science — as well as the Law School, Darden Business School, and the JAG School. The UVA Health System offers world-class medical care in a teaching hospital environment.

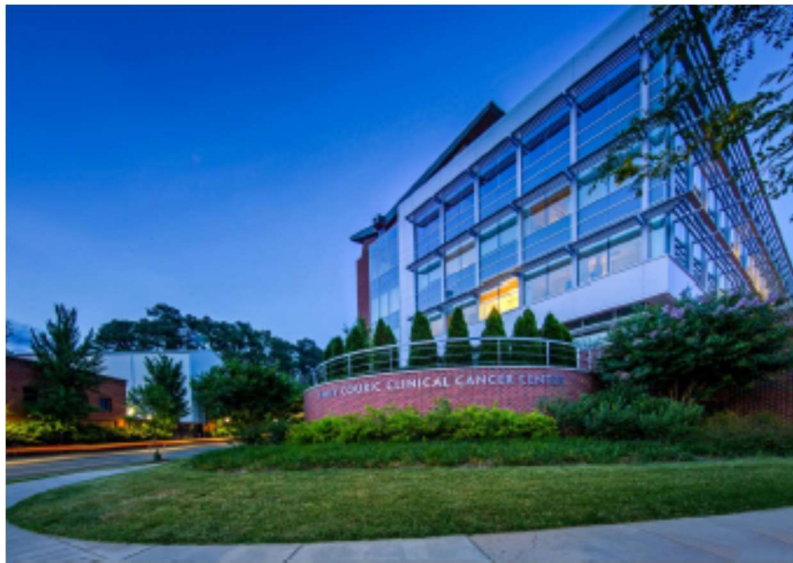
Thomas Jefferson was the architect, not only of the historic buildings, but also of the academic plan for the University. In building UVA, Jefferson's vision included the three elements essential to cancer prevention: detection, care, research and education.

First, he founded UVA as a place dedicated to “the illimitable freedom of the human mind,” and he favored “encouraging the progress of science in all its branches.” Second, he emphasized the importance of “useful knowledge.” Third, he wanted to form a true community of scholars, which Jefferson called an “academical village.” These three goals of fundamental discovery, practical application, and collaborative science, continue as guiding principles even today.



The UVA Cancer Center was founded in 1984, received its NCI designation in 1987 and has been successfully renewed several times since then. At the time of the most recent renewal, it received designation as a Comprehensive Cancer Center effective February 1, 2022.

In 2011, the [UVACCC](#) opened a \$124 million 151,000-square-foot cancer outpatient facility: the Emily Couric Clinical Cancer Center (EC4). This facility, which is architecturally iconic and patient-friendly, facilitates multi-specialty care and research and was the first free-standing, cancer-dedicated building at UVA. The opening of the EC4 represented a milestone in the evolution of the UVACCC.



As a matrix cancer center fully integrated within a leading university, the UVACCC has a special and responsibility: to bring diverse knowledge and technology into cancer research and care. Over the last almost 40 years, the UVACCC has continued — through faculty recruitment, infrastructure development and support for nationally and internationally recognized innovative research, and an emphasis on population science

and outreach in our catchment area that includes 87 counties in Virginia and into eastern West Virginia — to build on its strengths in basic sciences, to enhance its cancer focus and to construct a stronger capacity for clinical and translational cancer research.

To achieve our mission and vision, we will maximize the effective practical use of what is currently known, and accelerate the pace and cancer focus of new fundamental discoveries that are necessary to achieve more than incremental progress. We will continue growing our collaborative work to provide state-of-the-art services, specialized clinical care, and cutting-edge research to benefit our patients, the residents of the Commonwealth of Virginia and patients across the United States. Dr. Thomas P. Loughran, Jr., MD, has been the director of the UVACCC since August 2013. It includes 162 members from 25 departments at four schools at UVA: Medicine, Nursing, Engineering and the College of Arts and Sciences.

The UVACCC serves 3.2 million residents in 87 counties throughout Virginia and eastern West Virginia. It has demonstrated an enhanced depth of basic, clinical and population research; transdisciplinary research that bridges multiple scientific areas, evidenced by the ability to take maximum advantage of research and innovation across UVA; partnership with the catchment area community area to address priorities and reduce disparities through education and outreach; and highlight excellence in cancer research.

[The Center for Public Health Genomics \(CPHG\)](#)

was established in January 2007, with the recruitment of Stephen S. Rich, Ph.D., from Wake Forest University as its founding Director and Board of Visitors Distinguished Faculty Scholar and Harrison Teaching Chair in Public Health Sciences. Since this time, the Center has grown to 16 resident faculty and over 60 staff and trainees. In January 2022, the Center began a



new chapter as Charles R. Farber, Ph.D., Professor of Public Health Sciences, became Director of the CPHG. The Center’s mission is to conduct cutting-edge research on the role of genetics and genomics in human health and disease, train the next generation of genome scientists, and translate genomic research into improved health care.

The Center for Public Health Genomics (CPHG) addresses questions in biology, public health, and medicine by developing and applying state-of-the-art genetic, genomic, and computational approaches to complex human diseases.

Research in the CPHG is focused on translational genomics and personalized medicine — moving basic discoveries in genetics and genomics into clinical settings with the goal of improving the delivery of health care and disease prevention.



CPHG’s research projects range from gene discovery to pharmacogenomics to mouse models of human disease. Labs in the CPHG offer graduate research and training opportunities through the UVA School of Medicine, Biomedical Engineering, and the College of Arts and Sciences graduate programs.

In the University of Virginia Center for Public Health Genomics we continually aspire to excellence in research and education, and we recognize that the potential for excellence exists in individuals irrespective of their culture, ancestry, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, national origin, or religious or spiritual beliefs.