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About
The
Job.

SEERC - South East European Research Centre, Thessaloniki, Greece
Research Centre of the University of Sheffield (UK) and CITY College (Greece)

Post: Research Associate (Full-time, Fixed-term)

Information and Communication Technologies Research Track

Job Description

Brief outline: Applications are invited for one Research Associate position, to work on FP7-funded research project ELEVATE (<http://www.seerc.org/elevate.html>), a collaborative academic and industrial project aiming at enabling software vendors to deliver innovative e-training services for their business partners and customers through a hybrid training and certification environment that integrates pedagogical documentation and e-training add-ons in the enterprise application software to be taught.

The principal task of the postholder will be to assist in the specification of the ELEVATE Training, Evaluation and Certification subsystem and undertake research and development for some of its components. Experience in Web application development (PHP, AJAX, J2EE) is considered essential for this post. Familiarisation with Learning Management System technologies or research-related working experience would be considered beneficial. Applicants should hold a good first degree and preferably a postgraduate degree (or equivalent experience) in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, or a related discipline, or a postgraduate degree in an area related to ICT in education.

The successful candidate will be working within the Information and Knowledge Management research cluster at SEERC and will be based in Thessaloniki, Greece, on a full-time basis. Fluency in English is a prerequisite, while understanding of the Greek language would be an advantage. The postholder is expected to be highly motivated and proactive, have excellent organisation and communication skills and be eager to disseminate research results by preparing papers and presenting at international conferences and seminars.

Report to: Dr. Iraklis Paraskakis (SEERC Principal Investigator in ELEVATE)

Main Duties and Responsibilities

- Conduct research into the design and development of the ELEVATE Training, Evaluation and Certification subsystem, in collaboration with technical partners of the consortium.
- Undertake the reporting requirements for project deliverables that SEERC is either responsible for or contributing to, in collaboration with other members of the Information and Knowledge Management research cluster.
- Present results to collaborators of the ELEVATE project, members of the research cluster and

external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.

- Assist in writing supporting documents to contribute to and support the work of the research cluster.
- Assist in preparing and submitting research project proposals to secure funding from European or Greek research funding programmes.
- Carry out administrative duties as requested, e.g. arranging project progress meetings.
- Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments.

Planning and Organising

- Plan for specific aspects of the research project. Timescales range from 1-6 months in advance.
- If given a particular hypothesis to examine, carry out planning for own contribution 1-3 months ahead, incorporating issues such as the availability of resources, deadlines, project milestones and overall research aims. Design individual experiments weekly.
- Coordinate and liaise with external collaborators and other members of staff over work progress. Supervise research team/activities if required.
- Continuously monitor and check results. The unpredictability of research means that daily planning needs to accommodate new developments.
- Plan several months in advance to meet deadlines for journal publications and to prepare presentations and papers for conferences.

Person Specification

Applicants should demonstrate evidence of the following:

Criteria	Essential	Desirable	How this criterion will be assessed
Experience and qualifications			
Have a good first degree in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, or related area	✓		Application; References
Have a good postgraduate degree in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Information Systems, or an area related to ICT in education		✓	Application; References
Experience in technologies and toolkits for enterprise application development (e.g. J2EE)	✓		Application; Interview
Familiarisation with core e-learning technologies and standards (e.g. LOM, SCORM, IMS)		✓	Application; Interview
Experience in technologies and toolkits for Web development (e.g. PHP, JavaScript, AJAX)	✓		Application; Interview
Knowledge in the area of ICT in education		✓	Application; Interview; References
English language skills (fluency)	✓		Application; Interview
Greek language skills		✓	Application; Interview
Knowledge of EU-funded project reporting procedures		✓	Application; Interview; References
Experience in EU-funded research project proposal preparation		✓	Application; Interview; References

Communication skills			
Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, both written and verbal, report writing skills and experience of delivering presentations.	✓		Application; Interview; References
Personal effectiveness			
Ability to develop and maintain a network of contacts throughout own work area.	✓		Application; Interview; References
Ability to adapt skills to new circumstances.	✓		Application; Interview; References

Further Information

This post is fixed-term, tenable immediately, and ending in October 2010. Applications will be accepted until the post is filled. The salary will be commensurate with the successful candidate's qualifications and experience. Subject to the postholder's performance and the availability of funding, SEERC may be able to extend the contract and/or provide a scholarship for undertaking research leading to the award of a PhD in Computer Science from the University of Sheffield. All applicants are requested to make sure that they have the legal right to be employed in Greece.

Informal enquiries: Informal enquiries may be directed to Dr. Iraklis Paraskakis at iparaskakis@seerc.org, or by telephone on 0030 2310 253478.