Università
della
Svizzera
italiana

Institute of Computing

PostDoc position at the Faculty of Informatics (Institute of Computing) and the Faculty of Economics at USI Università della Svizzera italiana

Università della Svizzera italiana (USI) is a young and lively university, a hub of opportunity open to the world where students are offered a quality interdisciplinary education in which they can be fully engaged and take center stage, and where our researchers can count on having the space to freely pursue their initiative.

Established in 1996, USI is in constant evolution, always taking on new challenges while remaining true to its three guiding principles: quality, openness and responsibility.

USI, Institute of Computing, invites applications for a fully funded PostDoc or Research Associate position (according to the seniority of the applicant) in Statistics / Data Science for conducting research in the project entitled **"Modelling and predicting the Covid-19 peri-mortality"**.

The project

Professor Antonietta Mira and Professor Ernst C. Wit are looking for one postdoctoral / research assistant (not tenure track) level position funded on a H2020 grant, PERISCOPE (https://www.ceps.eu/ceps-projects/periscope/). The position is for 18 months and the gross annual salary is 80.000 CHF.

The project involves an interdisciplinary approach to modelling the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and responses to it on other outcomes, such as mortality.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had serious direct consequences on the health of hundreds of millions of people worldwide. So far, officially almost 4 million people have died as a result, although the real number is probably higher. To counter the spread of the disease many governments imposed measures, such as lockdowns and social distancing. The side effects of these measures have been studied in less detail, but besides direct economic consequences, patients have missed life-saving operations, economic consequences will affect the health of vulnerable parts of society, etc. The aim of this project is to study the indirect effect of the various measures on peri-mortality.

The PostDoc candidate will work under the scientific supervision of Prof. Antonietta Mira (link) and Ernst C. Wit (link).

The successful candidate will be offered the possibility to work in a dynamic research team and in a multidisciplinary and international scientific environment.

The PostDoc candidate will collaborate to the development of the institute research agenda.

Tasks encompass both research and teaching responsibilities. The successful candidate will have shared responsibilities in the design and conduction of research projects in the field of Statistics.

On the teaching side, he/she will work as teaching assistant in courses at either bachelor or master level, helping in the preparation of teaching materials and tutoring students.

The PostDoc candidate is expected to present papers at scientific conferences and produce publications in high-ranking journals.

Candidates' profile
Ideal candidates should satisfy the following requirements:
- A PhD in Statistics, or related disciplines.
- High personal interest in Statistics / Data Science.
- Expertise in Bayesian Statistics and Computational Statistics.
- Excellent command of English, both written and spoken.
- A strong desire for research and publishing at top venues.
- Ability to work independently and to plan and direct own work.
- Ability to work in team and autonomy in scheduling research steps. Interest for teaching and tutoring students and availability to collaborate with colleagues (engage in scientific dialogue, listen and think critically) are required.

General terms
Workplace is USI Università della Svizzera italiana, located in Lugano, Switzerland. Availability to travel to other parts of Switzerland and abroad (for purposes of collaboration and research) is required.

Starting date is October 1st 2021 (at the earliest). However, the position will be kept open until a suitable candidate has been found.

The Application
Applications should contain: (1) a letter in which the applicants describe their research interests and the motivation to apply, (2) a complete CV, (3) copies of relevant diplomas, certificates as well as the full transcript of records, (4) a complete list of publications with details on the candidate's contributions, (5) minimum 2 and up to 4 reference letters.

Please send your application in electronic form or requests for further information to Prof. EC Wit (wite@usi.ch) and Prof. A. Mira (antonietta.mira@usi.ch).

Applications received before September 1st 2021, will be given priority. However, applications will be received until the position is filled.

As an institution that values diversity, USI particularly encourages applications from women and from all individuals from underrepresented groups.

Lugano, July 12st, 2021