
Fully funded Ph.D. student position at the Institute for Communication Technologies, Faculty of Communication Sciences 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.

The Institute for Communication Technologies (ITC) studies the mutual interactions between information technologies and human communication processes. The position will be situated in the Institute's area of research that is dedicated to eLearning, i.e. to the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in educational contexts.

The Institute for Communication Technologies invites applications for one fully funded Ph.D. position in Communication Sciences by candidates interested in conducting research in the area of eLearning in medicine, with a specific focus on simulations.

The Ph.D. Position

The doctoral student will be enrolled in the [Ph.D. program in Communication Sciences](#). The doctoral student will work under the direction of Prof. Dr. [Lorenzo Cantoni](#), and under the co-direction of Prof. Dr. [Sissel Guttormsen Schär](#) (Institute of Medical Education, University of Bern). The doctoral student will collaborate also with the eLab - eLearning Lab of USI, and with the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences. The successful candidate will be offered the possibility to work in a dynamic research team and in a multidisciplinary and international scientific environment.

While the overall area of research will be the use of simulations in medical training, a detailed research plan will be defined in collaboration with the selected candidate.

Scholarship

This scholarship is for three years. For the third year of the Ph.D. project, the candidate might be invited to apply for an annual research period abroad supported by the Swiss National Science Foundation.

In addition to waived fees for the duration of the three-years scholarship, the award includes provision for a student maintenance grant at the yearly rate of about CHF 40.000; annual renewal is not automatic, but contingent on satisfactory progress. A conference attendance allowance will also be provided.

Candidates' profile

Ideal candidates should satisfy the following requirements:

- A Master's degree in Education, Instructional design, Media and Communication, Psychology, Sociology, or in closely related fields, finished prior to appointment
- Interest in digital communication, specifically in the area of medical education
- Good skills in oral and written English (official language of the Ph.D. program)
- Good oral and writing skills in one (but preferably two) national Swiss languages (German, French, Italian, Romansh)
- Ability to work independently and to plan and direct own work
- Excellent communication skills and ability to collaborate in teams
- High motivation for research tasks

Admission to the Ph.D. program is highly competitive. Admission decisions are based on the candidate's background, interests, attitude and potential for academic achievement. Successful enrolment in the Ph.D. program and the position as doctoral researcher are not compatible with a further professional activity.

The successful candidate will work as scientific collaborator at eLab - eLearning Lab USI, and will have the possibility to interact with an international network of collaborators. Workplace is USI Università della Svizzera italiana, located in Lugano, Switzerland. The successful candidate will ideally start his/her collaboration and research activities at USI in Autumn 2018.

The Application

Applications should contain (1) a letter in which the applicants describe their research interests and the motivation to apply, (2) a CV, (3) copies of relevant diplomas, certificates as well as the full transcript of records that prove the candidates' eligibility for doctoral studies in Communication Sciences, and (4) the names of two academic references that can be contacted for further information.

Please send your application or requests for further information to dr. Stefano Tardini (stefano.tardini@usi.ch) with the subject "Ph.D. eLearning in medicine".

Applications received before July 15, 2018, will be given priority.

USI strives to be an equal opportunity and family friendly employer and is further responsive to the needs of dual career couples. We guarantee that the selection process will give equal opportunities to female and male researchers.

Lugano, June 13, 2018