
PhD student position at the Software Institute, Faculty of Informatics 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 Software Institute is a center of excellence devoted to all aspects of software engineering research and development, and is part of the Faculty of Informatics. The Faculty (established in 2004) offers BSc, MSc, and PhD study programs, and has a high international standing in multiple areas of computer science research (see CSRankings and CSRankings: Computer Science Rankings for software engineering specifically).

The project

The ATOM (Automation in Software and Verification Technology) research group of SI is looking for PhD students to work on practical program analysis and verification, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF).

The Ph.D. Position

The student will be enrolled in the doctoral program of the Faculty of Informatics and work under the scientific supervision of Prof. Carlo A. Furia in a dynamic research team and in a multidisciplinary and international scientific environment.

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

The PhD candidate is also asked to present papers at scientific conferences, and produce publications for scientific journals.

Candidates' profile

Ideal candidates should satisfy the following requirements:

- A Master (or equivalent title) in computer science, or related disciplines.
 - Good skills in oral and written English (official language of the Ph.D. program)
 - A passion for programming and motivation to try out new ideas and make an impact.
- Some familiarity with the basics of formal software analysis (any techniques) is desirable.

Contract terms

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 candidates will work as research assistants at the Software Institute, and will have the possibility to interact with an international network of collaborators.

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.

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 (including any possible publications or contributions to software development projects), (3) one or two references of professors/researchers/professionals familiar with the candidate's work.

Please send your application in electronic form or requests for further information to Prof. Carlo A. Furia (furiac@usi.ch).

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, 21 October 2022