



Further Particulars

This document includes information about the role for which you are applying and the information you will need to provide with the application.

1. Role details

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| Vacancy reference: | 7974 |
| Job title: | Research Associate |
| Reports to: | Senior Lecturer: Knowledge Media Disciplines |
| Salary: | Ranging from £30,122 – £35,938 |
| Terms and conditions of service: | Full time Research Staff |
| Grade: | AC2 |
| Duration of post: | Until 29 th May 2013 |
| Working hours: | Full time – 37 hours per week |
| Location: | Knowledge Media Institute of The Open University |
| Closing date: | 26 th April 2012 |
| Type of application form accepted: | Standard form |
| Number of referees required: | Three |
| Unit recruitment contact: | Ortenz Rose |

2. Summary of duties

The EPSRC funded project aims to automatically detect trends of violent radicalization and extremism in social media. In particular, it will study a Bayesian modelling approach which identifies violent contents in social media without the use of any labelled data. Efficient online parameter updating and parallel data processing procedures will be investigated.

The Open University's Knowledge Media Institute (KMi) is looking for a Research Associate able to develop a Bayesian modelling approach for real-time detection of violence content from large-scale social media data.

The appointments will be made on the Academic Grade 2 Salary Scales for Research Staff, ranging from £30,122 – £35,938 pa depending on qualifications and experience. Appointment as a Research Associate requires a PhD or three years equivalent in quality of achievement.

Job Description

The position will centre on the design, implementation and evaluation of incremental learning and fast and scalable learning of a Bayesian model. There will be opportunities to develop your research profile, to travel to give demos and presentations, and to write academic papers.

Relevant Publications and Further Information

1. C. Lin, **Y. He**, R. Everson, and S. Rueger. Weakly-Supervised Joint Sentiment-Topic Detection from Text. *IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering*, to appear.
2. **Y. He**. Incorporating Sentiment Prior Knowledge for Weakly-Supervised Sentiment Analysis, *ACM Transactions on Asian Language Information Processing*, to appear.
3. C. Lin, **Y. He**, and R. Everson. A Comparative Study of Bayesian Models for Unsupervised Sentiment Detection. In *CoNLL*, pages 144–152, 2010.
4. C. Lin and **Y. He**. Joint sentiment/topic model for sentiment analysis. In *CIKM*, pages 375–384, 2009.

3. Person specification

Essential

- Excellent knowledge of statistical modelling
- Experience in developing algorithms for natural language processing (NLP)
- Strong programming skills using C++ or Java
- Ability to handle constructive feedback
- Ability to work in a team
- Ability to work to deadlines
- Strong verbal and written communication skills

Desirable

- Good knowledge of topic models
- Good knowledge of Bayesian inference
- Experience in producing experiments for NLP applications using large data sets

4. Role specific requirements e.g. Shift working

n/a

5. About the unit/department

The Knowledge Media Institute (KMi) of the UK's Open University is a highly successful interdisciplinary research centre founded at The Open University in 1995, and located in attractive premises at The Open University's main campus in Milton Keynes, UK. We offer a stimulating environment, widely acknowledged to be at the leading edge of research and development, particularly in Semantic Technologies, Human Computer Interaction, New Media and Information Retrieval. The style, impact and content of our work can be seen at <http://kmi.open.ac.uk/>

6. How to obtain more information about the role or application process

If you would like to discuss the particulars of this role before making an application please contact Dr Yulan He on Tel: +44 (0)1908 858215 or email y.he@open.ac.uk

If you have any questions regarding the application process please contact Ortenz Rose on +44 (0)1908 654774 or email o.rose@open.ac.uk

7. The application process and where to send completed applications

Please ensure that your application reaches the University by: **25 April 2012**

Post it to:

Name/Job title: **Ortenz Rose – Senior Staffing Coordinator**

Department/Unit: **Knowledge Media Institute**

Address: **The Open University
Walton Hall
MILTON KEYNES
Bucks**

Post Code: **MK7 6AA**

Or e-mail your application to: kmi-recruitment@open.ac.uk

8. Selection process and date of interview

The interview panel will be chaired by Dr Yulan He. Other members of the interview panel will include members of the project team. Interviews will be arranged as soon after the close date as is possible.

We will let you know as soon as possible after the closing date whether you have been shortlisted for interview. Further details on the selection process will also be sent to shortlisted candidates.

Applications received after the closing date will not be accepted.