

Job Related Information

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

1. Role Details

Vacancy reference	13868
Job title:	Project Officer - Data Hub Development
Reports to:	Senior Project Officer - Data Science Group
Salary:	Ranging from £32,004 to £38,183
Terms and conditions:	Full time Academic-Related Staff
Grade	GR7
Duration of post:	Until 30 June 2019
Working hours:	37 hours per week (full time, Monday to Friday)
Location:	Milton Keynes
Closing date:	5pm on 31 August 2017
Type of application form accepted:	Standard or Accessible version (plus CV & covering letter)
Number of referees required:	Three
Unit recruitment contact:	Ortenz Rose

2. Summary of duties

The Open University's Knowledge Media Institute (KMi) is looking for a Project Officer to support the maintenance and evolution of the MK Data Hub, a computational infrastructure for acquiring and managing city data originally developed in the context of the MK:Smart project, www.mksmart.org. The MK Data Hub currently supports several high impact research projects on IoT and Smart Cities, which rely on leading edge solutions for data management and analytics.

The position is supported by two projects funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF): ICT Escalator and CityLabs.

Under the supervision of key academics in the field, the Project Officer will be responsible for supporting the continuous operation and development of the Data Hub infrastructure, as well as its use in a variety of applications.

For example, this will require:

- Maintaining and developing a backend architecture and delivering test and operational stability outcomes;
- Carrying out analyses of usage and performance;
- Designing and implementing new APIs and other software components;
- Producing high quality documentation;
- Creating front ends for the Data Hub;
- Reengineering research prototypes into robust and sustainable software solutions.

The Project Officer may also be expected to help to develop prototype applications demonstrating the potential of a large scale data infrastructure.

The Project Officer will be working with a team of leading researchers at the Knowledge Media Institute of The Open University and will be expected to contribute to the research landscape of The Open University in areas including (but not limited to) Data Science, Internet of Things and Smart Cities.

ICT Escalator:

ICT Escalator (led by the University of Bedfordshire) delivers specialist support to develop digital capability so that SMEs can make full use of high speed connectivity to the internet, build on existing business opportunities and create new innovative digital applications, platforms and services. KMi will be responsible for supporting development initiatives in 15-20 "Data Hungry" SMEs over a two-year period. To do this we will outline the benefits and opportunities of the MK Data Hub and support SME engagement through workshops, presentations and 1-1 interventions, to identify needs and assist in prototyping solutions as well as providing funding mechanisms for innovation.

CityLabs:

The main objective of CityLabs will be to enhance the research and innovation infrastructure already present in Milton Keynes. On top of this, KMi will implement an advanced programme of innovation support and training for SME's, which aims to address the existing limitations in the ability of SMEs to exploit the potential of big data and bring innovative solutions to market. KMi will support 20 SMEs in this 2 year project.

3. Person specification

Requirements (E = Essential/ D = Desirable)

Education, qualifications and training

Educated to degree level or with equivalent relevant experience.

You will have proven experience of project activity in a technical environment.

Knowledge, work and other relevant experience

Essential:

Technical skills:

- Full stack development of end-to-end Web/Database solutions:
 - Experience of Web UI development;
 - Knowledge of at least one of the following development languages: Java, PHP, Python;
 - Knowledge of SQL;
 - Experience with Unix based operating systems.
- Experience in software development in a dynamic and agile environment;
- Working experience in distributed enterprise applications;
- Practical experience of realising robust online services;
- Ability to write clear technical documentation.

Non-technical skills:

- Ability to quickly demonstrate understanding of the project aims and specific tasks as requested;
- Willingness to learn new languages and technologies;
- Ability to work in a multi-disciplinary team;
- Ability to meet challenging targets and deadlines.

Desirable:

- Experience and skills in Javascript development;
- Experience with Hadoop-based applications;
- Experience in using and developing for Wordpress;
- Experience in using RDF and related Semantic Web technologies (SPARQL).

Personal abilities and qualities

Essential:

- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively at all levels;
- Attention to detail;
- Excellent interpersonal skills in dealing with staff and project stakeholders;
- A demonstrable interest in new technologies;
- Proactive problem solver who works on their own initiative.

Desirable:

- Understanding of digital economy.

4. Role specific requirements e.g. Shift working

n/a

5. About the unit/department

Faculty of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics

The newly formed Faculty of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) comprises:

- School of Computing & Communications
- School of Environment, Earth & Ecosystem Sciences
- School of Engineering & Innovation
- School of Life, Health & Chemical Sciences
- School of Mathematics & Statistics
- School of Physical Sciences
- Knowledge Media Institute (distinct research institute)
- Deanery including teams supporting Curriculum, Research and Enterprise, Laboratory Infrastructure and Faculty Administration

“We aspire to be world leaders in inclusive, innovative and high impact STEM teaching and research, equipping learners, employers and society with the capabilities to meet tomorrow’s challenges”

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 Alan Fletcher on +44 (0)1908 654511 or email: alan.fletcher@open.ac.uk

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


7. The application process and where to send completed applications

Please ensure that your application reaches the University by:	5pm on 31 August 2017
Post it to:	Ortenz Rose
Name/Job title:	KMi Senior Co-ordinator - Staffing & Recruitment

Department/Unit:	The Knowledge Media Institute (STEM)
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:	Enrico Motta - Professor of Knowledge Technologiesd
The other members of the interview panel will be:	Enrico Daga - Senior Project Officer TBA
The interviews will take place:	Week commencing 11th September 2017
The selection process for this post will include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review of applications by the interview panel; • A short presentation to the panel on the role of the project officer; • A formal interview. <p>Please ensure you complete all relevant sections of the application form. You are required to include a curriculum vitae; however any CV submitted <u>without</u> a completed application for employment form <u>will not be accepted.</u></p>

	<p>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.</p> <p>Applications received after the closing date will not be accepted.</p>
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