

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

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| Vacancy reference | 12679 |
| Job title: | Research Assistant / Associate |
| Reports to: | Senior Research Fellow, Head of Data Science Group |
| Salary: | Ranging from £28,982 to £37,768 |
| Terms and conditions: | Full time Research Staff |
| Grade | AC1 / AC2 |
| Duration of post: | 12 months |
| Working hours: | 37 hours per week (full time, Monday to Friday) |
| Location: | Milton Keynes |
| Closing date: | 17 October 2016 |
| Type of application form accepted: | Standard or Accessible version |
| Number of referees required: | Three |
| Unit recruitment contact: | Ortenz Rose |

2. Summary of duties

We are looking for a bright and ambitious post-doctoral researcher to complement the Open University's Data Science Group. The successful applicant will have a profound understanding of the practices of data modelling and sharing, as well as of their use (and the challenges they raise) in domains of general public interest - especially education, the arts and humanities, cultural and social issues, etc.

The appointment will be made on the Academic Grade 1 or Grade 2 Salary Scales for Research Staff, ranging from £28,982 to £37,768 pa depending on qualifications and experience.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Joining an already strong Data Science group (<http://datascience.kmi.open.ac.uk>) within the Knowledge Media Institute of the Open University, you will be in charge of research around methods to support the sharing, publication and consumption of web data in a variety of scenarios, working in collaboration with researchers from the faculties of Arts and Social Sciences. Through the case studies generated with those researchers and relying on a variety of existing data publishing platform (including data.open.ac.uk and the [MK Data Hub](#)), you will contribute research on methods and technologies for data modelling, integration, curation and consumption. As a researcher, your role will also be to create and engage into collaborations with external partners, identify new direction for researcher and setup new funded projects to support this research.

Specific Tasks:

- Identify strong data sharing and consumption case studies with researchers in domains of general public interest, with potential for multi-disciplinary research contributions;
- Research new technologies, methods and tools to solve complex issues raised by these case studies - such issues might appear at the level of the representation of the data, of their integration/curation, or of the interaction between the domain experts and the data;
- Reach out to other units of the Open University to identify opportunities for and test the applicability of the developed research;
- Establish new collaborations and research direction within the Data Science Group, and participate in setting up funding proposals to support this research.

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

The publications below are available from <http://kmi.open.ac.uk/publications/>

- Mouromtsev, Dmitry, and Mathieu d'Aquin, eds. Open Data for Education: Linked, Shared, and Reusable Data for Teaching and Learning. Vol. 9500. Springer, 2016.
- Daga, Enrico, Mathieu d'Aquin, Alessandro Adamou, and Stuart Brown. "The Open University Linked Data—data. open. ac. uk." *Semantic Web* 7, no. 2 (2016): 183-191.
- Brown, Simon, Helen Barlow, Alessandro Adamou, and Mathieu d'Aquin. "The Listening Experience Database Project: Collating the Responses of the " Ordinary Listener" to Prompt New Insights into Musical Experience." *International Journal of the Humanities: Annual Review* 12 (2015).
- Adamou, Alessandro, and Mathieu d'Aquin. "On requirements for federated data integration as a compilation process." (2015): 75-80.
- d'Aquin, Mathieu, John Davies, and Enrico Motta. "Smart Cities' Data: Challenges and Opportunities for Semantic Technologies." *IEEE Internet Computing* 19, no. 6 (2015): 66-70.

- Adamou, Alessandro, Mathieu d'Aquin, Helen Barlow, and Simon Brown. "LED: curated and crowdsourced linked data on music listening experiences." In Proceedings of the 2014 International Conference on Posters & Demonstrations Track-Volume 1272, pp. 93-96. CEUR-WS. org, 2014.
- Daga, E., d'Aquin, M., Gangemi, A., & Motta, E. (2014). Early analysis and debugging of linked open data cubes.
- Domingue, John, Mathieu d'Aquin, Elena Simperl, and Alexander Mikroyannidis. "The Web of Data: Bridging the Skills Gap." IEEE Intelligent Systems 1, no. 29 (2014): 70-74.

3. Person specification

Requirements (E = Essential/ D = Desirable)

Education, qualifications and training

A Master in Computer Science or related field, or equivalent experience. Appointment as a Research Associate requires a PhD in Computer Science or related field, or 2+ years equivalent in quality of achievement.

Knowledge, work and other relevant experience

Essential:

- Both practical experience in and fundamental knowledge of data modelling, ontology building, and/or data curation methods and technologies;
- Experience and understanding of publishing data on the web using web data standards (RDF, OWL, JSON-LD);
- Experience of building applications using web data from multiple sources;
- Excellent programming skills in relevant languages;
- Experience in working in collaborative, multidisciplinary environments.

Desirable:

- Experience working with data from the Arts, Social Sciences or Education domains;
- Experience of the interaction aspects of data management for non-specialist audiences;
- Knowledge of data analytics technologies;

Personal abilities and qualities

Essential:

- Excellent written and oral scientific communication skills, and proven ability to setup and engage in collaborative research;
- Ability to quickly demonstrate understanding of the project aims and specific tasks as requested;
- Self-starter in providing solutions to meet project needs;
- Ability to work to challenging targets and deadlines;
- Ability to handle constructive feedback.

Desirable:

- Experience in using social and other media to communicate complex, technical research to a general public.

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 Mathieu d'Aquin by email: mathieu.daquin@open.ac.uk

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

7. The application process and where to send completed applications

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| Please ensure that your application reaches the University by: | 17 October 2016 |
| Post it to: | Ortenz Rose |
| Name/Job title: | KMi Senior Admin Co-ordinator - Staffing & Recruitment |
| Department/Unit: | The 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

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| The interview panel will be chaired by: | Mathieu d'Aquin, Senior Research Fellow, Head of the Data Science Group |
| The other members of the interview panel will be: | Professor John Domingue, Director of the Knowledge Media Institute <u>NB</u> : Other members to be confirmed |
| The interviews will take place on: | To be advised |
| The selection process for this post will include... | ...a review of applications by the Chair and selected members of the interview panel. a) Please ensure you complete all relevant sections of the application form. You are encouraged to also include a curriculum vitae; however any CV submitted <u>without</u> a completed application for employment form <u>will not be accepted</u> . b) You are also asked to provide a covering letter describing how your skills make you a suitable candidate for the post. |



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.