

Name of Organization: School of Computer Science (SoCS), University of Guelph
Position Title: Research Assistant for Diversity and Inclusion in Computer Science
Location: Guelph, ON, Canada (UofG Main Campus)
Students Required: 1
Dates: Sept 4-Dec 21, 2018

Job Summary

A team of faculty members in the School of Computer Science (SoCS) at the University of Guelph are seeking a research assistant to help with data collection and analysis for a research project aimed at investigating inclusion barriers for female and other underrepresented populations in the undergraduate computer science (CS) degree programs offered by SoCS. The selected candidate will work with the research team to conduct surveys, focus groups, and interviews of relevant stakeholders (e.g. current and potential students, faculty, and staff) of our computing degrees to identify real and perceived inclusion challenges faced by female and minority students. The job will also involve organizing and managing collected data, conducting data analyses, and preparing graphs, tables, and descriptive texts from these analyses for related project reports. The selected candidate will also research existing best practices within post-secondary education of addressing diversity and gender inclusion barriers from the literature, to help develop a set of comprehensive recommendations for a Diversity and Inclusion Strategy for SoCS.

Mandatory Qualifications

Selected candidates must have the following qualifications:

- Ability to manage emotionally sensitive situations
- Strong code of ethics and comfort working with confidential and sensitive personal data

Required Qualifications

Selected candidates will have at least three (3) of the following qualifications, and willingness and capability to learn the others:

- Completed a basic statistics / quantitative data analysis course (e.g. STAT*2040-Statistics I; PSYC*1010-Making Sense of Data in Psychological Research)
- Familiarity with data management software (e.g. Excel, Google Sheets)
- Comfortable learning new computing software packages
- Ability to work in a team
- Ability to work independently
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Strong time management and organizational skills

Beneficial Skills

The following skills would also be beneficial for this position:

- Experience conducting interviews and/or focus groups
- Experience interacting one-on-one with the public (e.g. working in retail, conducting outreach activities, etc.)
- Experience with quantitative and/or qualitative data analysis
- Strong interest in diversity and inclusion issue in computer science and related STEM fields

Job Location

Job activities will be conducted on site at the University of Guelph main campus in the School of Computer Science, with some potential travel to nearby locations as needed for data collection purposes.

Salary

The job is a fixed priced contract with the following compensation: \$8,000 + 4% vacation pay.

Research Team

- Dr. S. Scott, Associate Professor, School of Computer Science
- Dr. A. Hamilton-Wright, Associate Professor, School of Computer Science
- Dr. R. Chaturvedi, Assistant Professor, School of Computer Science

Project Contact

If you are interested in this position, or have questions, please contact

Dr. S. Scott, Associate Professor, School of Computer Science

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