Developer for Cloud-based Virtual Research Environments

Vacancy – Terms of reference

Job description

PURPOSE: We are looking for a short-term scientific programmer to develop services and tools for a Virtual Research Environment (VRE), focusing on search techniques for heterogenous research assets.

JOB TITLE: Developer for Cloud-based Virtual Research Environments

LOCATION: Virtual Laboratories and Innovations Centre premises in Amsterdam, Netherlands

POSITION: Full-Time, 06 months

FUNDING RESOURCES: LifeWatch ERIC Strategic Working Plan

Main responsibilities

- The candidate will closely work with the domain scientists from the domains of ecosystem and biodiversity, develop reusable solutions to tackle data challenges, validate the software via use cases, and integrate software components as part of a distributed Virtual Research Environment for a broader community;
- The candidate will actively review the state-of-the-art technologies in the context of cloud computing, semantic web, search engine, big data and scientific workflow management, follow Agile, Co-development and other best practices of modern software engineering in Cloud environments to effectively deliver solutions to the VRE;
- The candidate will be contracted by LifeWatch ERIC VLIC and will work within the premises of the Multi Scale Networks Systems Group (MNS), Informatics Institute at University of Amsterdam;
- The candidate will closely collaborate with domain scientists from the domains of ecosystem and biodiversity in the groups of the Biogeography & Macroecology
(BIOMAC) lab (http://biomac.org/) and the Department Theoretical and Computational Ecology (http://ibed.uva.nl/research) within the University of Amsterdam.

The ideal candidate should meet the following requirements

- A PhD degree in AI or information retrieval;
- Strong interest in learning new technologies;
- Willingness to work in a multidisciplinary team (ecology, computer science, software engineering);
- Ability to speak and communicate in English at an academic level both verbal and written;
- Experience in one or more major pre-programming languages (e.g. Java, Python);
- Familiar with UNIX/Linux environment;
- Up-to-date knowledge about various software development and deployment tools including minimally Git/GitHub;
- Experience with web programming, Cloud computing and elastic search;
- Based in The Netherlands and able and willing to work in the LifeWatch ERIC offices in Amsterdam.

Assets

- Experience with web applications and libraries (e.g., Jupyter, HTML, JavaScript, and PHP);
- Experiences with user studies and search evaluation.

The vacancy is subject to the following procedure

- A short covering letter and Curriculum Vitae\(^1\) (EUROPASS format and annexes, 4 pages at the most) shall be written in English and submitted to the Dr. Zhiming Zhao

---

\(^1\) Special note for Italian market: According to Italian Privacy Protection Law n. 196/03 any resume not mentioning explicitly the following wording: ‘I authorise the use of my personal data in accordance with Italian Privacy Protection Law (30/06/2003, n. 196/03)’ will be automatically deleted from our database and consequently not taken into consideration.
(z.zhao@uva.nl) by 4 January 2024. Please write ‘Developer for Cloud-based Virtual Research Environments’ in the mail subject;

- If non-EU citizen, please provide information on working/residence permit situation relevant to an appointment with a Dutch organisation;
- The selection process will follow the Employment Policy of LifeWatch ERIC;
- Only shortlisted candidates will be re-contacted and called for an interview.
- She/he will be appointed for a 6-month period. A competitive gross monthly salary, 3.226,00 - 5.090,00 €, depending on relevant experience (equivalent to University salary scale 10) and based on 38 hours per week, will be offered. Employment will be in Netherlands, follow Dutch employment law. The Collective Labour Agreement for Dutch Universities will be applied. The annual salary will be increased by 8% holiday allowance and 8.3% end-of-year bonus. She/he will benefit from the LifeWatch-ERIC Netherlands pension scheme with RESAVER.

- This position is Full-Time (38 hours per week). Her/his main office will be located at the Virtual Laboratories and Innovations Centre premises in Amsterdam, Netherlands, without prejudice to the establishment of others in the future;

LifeWatch ERIC is an equal opportunity employer, and encourages all qualified candidates to apply, regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, national origin, or sexual orientation.