The Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) creates knowledge for a better world and solutions that can change everyday life.

PhD position in Biometrics

The Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Gjøvik (NTNU, https://www.ntnu.edu/gjovik) invites applications for a Ph.D. research fellow in biometrics. The positions are based at the Norwegian Information Security Laboratory (NISlab, www.nislab.no) Norway’s largest research group in information security, and host of the Norwegian Biometrics laboratory (NBL). The biometrics lab is currently working on three ongoing EU research projects under the FP7 framework program. The projects namely INGRESS, ORIGINS and PiDaaS deal with biometrics and identity management. Moreover NBL is serving industry on bilateral research activities and has also established a project relationship with the Nasjonalt ID-senter (NID). Also on the national level NBL was awarded recently with the SWAN project, which is funded by the Research Council of Norway under the IKTPLUSS program.

The Ph.D. positions are funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Education.

The period of employment for the positions as a Ph.D. research fellow is initially for 3 years, which can be extended to four years by including a 25% position as teaching assistant.

All successful candidates must be able to secure a residence and work permit in Norway.

The university is committed to a policy of equal opportunity in employment practices, and we would particularly like to encourage female candidates to apply. Admission to a doctoral degree program is a requirement for employment as a Ph.D. research fellow.

The position is described below.

Face Recognition Security

The rapid progress in biometric technology and deployment especially in face recognition at European Border control (e.g. at Automated Border Control gates) has raised issues regarding the security of biometrics capture devices and the biometric enrolment process. The main objective of this research project is to investigate direct and indirect attacks on biometric face recognition systems, to assess the attack potential of such attacks and to develop technical countermeasures that can automatically detect attacks and intercept subsequent transactions.

We are looking for a strong candidate possessing skills related to biometrics, pattern recognition, machine learning intrusion detection, interested in solving problems related to security of biometric systems.

For further information please contact Professor Christoph Busch (christoph.busch@ntnu.no).

Qualifications required for the announced position

Startup in the Ph.D. fellowship requires:

- A completed master's degree in computer science, mathematics or education of an equivalent level (commonly consisting of a 180 ECTS credit point bachelor degree followed by a 120 ECTS master degree), where the weighted average grade of the two years of the Master program is of B or higher in accordance with NTNU's grading system.
- High motivation for research work and ability to work independently.
- Good organisation and communication skills with interest in wider context of own research and ability to engage in cross-disciplinary teams.
- Eagerness to disseminate research results through publications and presentations at international conferences.
- Written and oral fluency in English.

If the applicant's mother tongue is not English or a Scandinavian language, and the Master’s Degree is not from an English speaking country it is necessary to provide proof of English skills. The following tests can be used as documentation of English language skills: TOEFL, IELTS and Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (CAE) or Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE). Minimum scores are:

- TOEFL: 600 (paper-based test), 92 (Internet-based test)
- IELTS: 6.5, with no section lower than 5.5 (only Academic IELTS test accepted)
- CAE/CPE: grade B or A.

Formal regulations

Appointments are made in accordance with the regulations in force regarding terms of employment for Ph.D. candidates issued by the Ministry of Education and Research, with relevant parts of the additional guidelines for appointment as a PhD candidate at NTNU. Applicants must undertake to participate in NTNU's organized PhD programme of study during their period of employment. The person that is appointed must comply with the conditions that apply at any time to employees in the public sector. In addition, a contract will be signed regarding the period of employment, including duty work if relevant.

Applicants must be qualified for admission as PhD students at NTNU. See http://www.ntnu.no/studieavd/dok/PhD_regulations.pdf for information about PhD studies at NTNU.

Salary conditions

The position is in code 1017 Stipendiat, salary grade 50 in the Norwegian State salary scale, gross NOK 430,200 per year (approx. 45,000 EUR / GBP 35,000). A deduction of 2 % is made as a statutory contribution to the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund.

Living and working in Gjøvik
Information can be found via the following links:

- Living in Gjøvik: http://www.ntnu.edu/lifeandhousing/gjovik
- Living in the county of Oppland: http://www.gonorway.no/norway/counties/oppland/
- Map of NTNU in Gjøvik: https://www.ntnu.edu/gjovik/how-to-get-here
- About Campus Gjøvik: http://www.ntnu.edu/gjovik

To apply

Applications will be processed through the university on-line application system (http://www.ntnu.edu/vacancies). Candidates must explicitly indicate which position(s) they apply for and submit the following documents in electronic form:

- A cover letter (1 page) explaining your motivation and how your skills and experience relate to the research focuses of the position applied for
- A draft research proposal outlining a possible approach for each position applied for (1 page per position).
- CV with a list of publications and English language test scores or other supporting documents (as proof of the candidates' study and language abilities)
- Relevant transcripts of grades, diplomas, and certificates
- A description of M.Sc. work (1 page)
- Two letters of reference, preferably from academic supervisor(s).

Application deadline, interview and starting date

We accept applications received by 01.02.2017 or until the position is filled. Desired starting date is as soon as possible after 01.02.2017