Adjunct Associate Professor in Data Science/Safe AI

About the position

We have vacancy for an adjunct associate professorship (Associate Professor II) in Data Science at the Department of Mathematical Sciences (IMF). The position has a full-time equivalence of 20% and has a fixed term of 3 years with the possibility of employment for further periods.

The position will be associated with the Statistics group at IMF, reporting to the Head of Department. The position is sponsored by Equinor. The place of work is Trondheim.

Data science is one of 11 new strategic areas at the IE Faculty, and an important area of research at the Statistics group at IMF. The Statistics group has 17 permanent positions, 3 adjunct positions, 4 postdocs, and 22 PhD students. Statistics and Data Science are popular amongst students: for the 2019-2020 study year, 40 students will write their master thesis in statistics, and the majority of these will work with real-data applications of statistics, necessarily involving the field of data science. A part of our future strategy will be to strengthen our work in industrial statistics, and this position will contribute to that by focusing on the improvements in the use of statistical machine learning and data science for technological advancement in industry.

The position will be within data science but would intersect with two additional strategic areas for IE: Mathematics in Technology and Artificial Intelligence. In particular, it will look at a core topic of "Safe AI": unpacking the "black box" of machine learning and understanding how it works, to improve reliable quantification of uncertainty in the models. The eager adoption of machine learning in industry has made this an important topic: the substantial benefits of, for example, more precise failure prediction or automated diagnosis could easily be undermined if the associated risks are not properly understood. Uncertainty quantification lies in the core of statistical thinking, and the department will be well placed to make big strides in developing these ideas and applying them to practical problems coming from Norwegian industry.

Duties of the positions

- Support in teaching activities
- Support in supervising BSc, MSC and PhD students
- Support connections between industry and the data science community at NTNU
- Support applications for research funding

Required selection criteria

The position of Associate Professor II within Data Science/Safe AI requires that you meet the criteria in the Regulations concerning appointment and promotion to teaching and research posts section 1-4. 

- Your PhD, or academic work of the same scope and quality, must be within Statistics or equivalent
- The ability to initiate and lead research and development work will be emphasized.
- Strong emphasis will also be placed on publication of research results

The person appointed must be able to document extensive academic qualifications in important aspects of the subject area. The person appointed must also have proven academic expertise in one or more aspects of the subject area, with a focus on the areas for which this post has special responsibility. The ability to initiate and lead research and development work will be emphasized.

You will be expected to deliver high-quality teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, and undertake supervision of Masters and Doctoral candidates. Evaluation of these skills will be based on documented experience and relevant teaching qualifications. Quality and breadth of the teaching qualifications will be evaluated.

NTNU is committed to following evaluation criteria for research quality according to The San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment - DORA. This means that we pay special attention to the quality and professional breadth of these works. We also consider experience from research management and participation in research projects. We place great emphasis on your scientific work from the last five years.

You must document relevant basic competence for teaching and supervision at university/higher education-level, ref. Regulations. If this cannot be documented, you are required to complete an approved course in university teaching within two years of commencement. NTNU offers qualifying courses.

Please see the Regulations concerning appointment and promotion to teaching and research posts for general criteria for the position

Preferred selection criteria

- applicants with teaching and supervision experience from higher education will be preferred
- applicants with experience from industry will be preferred

Personal characteristics

- Good communication skills
• Good collaborative skills
• Ability to work in a multidisciplinary environment
• Ability to initiate and implement projects

In the assessment of the best qualified applicant, we will emphasize education, experience and personal suitability as well as your motivation for the position.

We offer

• exciting and stimulating tasks in a strong international academic environment
• an open and inclusive work environment with dedicated colleagues
• favourable terms in the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund
• employee benefits

Salary and conditions

In a position as Adjunct Associate Professor (code 1011) you will normally be remunerated from gross NOK 650,000 per year, corresponding with a 20% position, depending on qualifications and seniority. From the salary, 2% is deducted as a contribution to the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund.

The engagement is to be made in accordance with the regulations in force concerning State Employees and Civil Servants, and the acts relating to Control of the Export of Strategic Goods, Services and Technology. Candidates who by assessment of the application and attachment are seen to conflict with the criteria in the latter law will be prohibited from recruitment to NTNU. After the appointment you must assume that there may be changes in the area of work.

About the application

The application and supporting documentation must be in English.

Please note that applications are only evaluated based on the information available on the application deadline. You should ensure that your application shows clearly how your skills and experience meet the criteria which are set out above.

If, for any reason, you have taken a career break or have had an atypical career and wish to disclose this in your application, the selection committee will take this into account, recognizing that the quantity of your research may be reduced as a result.

The application must include:

• CV, certificates and diplomas
• Selected academic works - published or unpublished - that you would like to be considered in the assessment (up to 10 works)
• A description of the selected academic/artistic works that you regard as most relevant and that you particularly want to be taken into account in the assessment
• A list of your works with information on where they have been published
• Name and address of three potential references
• Three-year research plan with emphasis on relevance for supervising BSc, MSc, PhD students and for research funding applications
• Details of teaching qualifications based on "Documentation of applicant's teaching qualifications in connection with appointment to an academic position at NTNU”
• Details of the projects you have managed, with information about funding, duration and size

Joint works will be considered. If it is difficult to identify your contribution to joint works, you must attach a brief description of your participation.

Your application will be considered by an expert committee and the most suitable applicants will be invited to interview and to deliver a lecture.

General information

A good working environment is characterized by diversity. We encourage qualified candidates to apply, regardless of their gender, functional capacity or cultural background. NTNU wishes to increase the proportion of women in its academic positions, and women are therefore encouraged to apply.

As an employee at NTNU, you must at all times adhere to the changes that the development in the subject entails and the organizational changes that are adopted.

Under the Freedom of Information Act (offentleglova), your name, age, position and municipality may be made public even if you have requested not to have your name entered on the list of applicants.

If you have any questions about the position, please contact Professor Jo Eidsvik, telephone +47 73 59 01 53.

If you think this looks interesting and is in line with your qualifications, please submit your application and supporting documentation via jobbnorge.no. If you are invited for interview, you must bring certified copies of certificates and diplomas. Mark the application with reference number: 2020/4947.

Application deadline: 26.04.2020

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

Department of Mathematical Sciences
We are Norway’s largest university environment in mathematical sciences. The Department has a particular responsibility for all basis education in mathematical sciences for engineering and natural science students at NTNU. We focus on long-term basic research and applied research at a high international level. Our aim is to meet the society’s needs for mathematical and statistical expertise in business and public administration as well as in the research and education sector. The Department of Mathematical Sciences is one of seven departments in the Faculty of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering.