PhD Research Scholarship in Cyber Security and Threat Intelligence

Job description

A PhD Research Scholarship is available at the Department of Informatics, to work on Cyber Security and Cyber Threat Intelligence.

The starting date must be no later than 1 October 2020.

No one can be appointed for more than one PhD Research Fellowship period at the University of Oslo.

The scholarship period is 3 years devoted to PhD coursework and research training. Depending on the Department’s need, candidates may be offered one additional year by the Department; the 4 years position then entails a compulsory work load of 25% that may consist of teaching and student supervision as well as research assistance.

More about the position

The PhD project will focus on technologies for Cyber Security in general, with specific focus on CTI (Cyber Threat Intelligence) and the use of AI/ML for automated cyber threat detection and incident response. Research project tasks will typically involve theoretical modelling, development of prototype software tools, analysis and experimentation, report writing, as well as some project management.

The PhD position is located at the Department of Informatics (IFI home page: https://www.mn.uio.no/ifi/english/, and specifically in the Research Group for Digital Security https://www.mn.uio.no/ifi/english/research/groups/sec/.

The PhD student will work in the context of the Digital Security Group’s current research projects in cyber security, in particular as part of the CyberHunt project funded by RCN (the Research Council of Norway).

Qualification requirements

The Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences has a strategic ambition to be among Europe’s leading communities for research, education and innovation. Candidates for these fellowships will be selected in accordance with this, and expected to be in the upper segment of their class with respect to academic credentials.

- Applicants must hold a master’s degree or equivalent in one or several of the following disciplines: Informatics, Computer Science, (Mobile) Communication Technology, Information/Cyber/Digital Security, Data Science or Artificial Intelligence.
- Foreign degrees (master level) must correspond to a minimum of 4 years in the Norwegian educational system.
- Applicants without a master’s degree have until 30 June 2020 to complete the final exam.

Only citizens from European countries and NATO countries may apply for this position. The reason for this is that cyber security research may involve collaboration with defense and national security organizations where security clearance may be needed.

Grade Requirements:

The norm is as follows:

- the average grade point for courses included in the bachelor’s degree must be C or better in the Norwegian educational system
- the average grade point for courses included in the master’s degree must be B or better in the Norwegian educational system
- the master’s thesis must have the grade B or better in the Norwegian educational system
- Fluent oral and written communication skills in English.
- English requirements for applicants from outside of EU/EEA countries

http://www.mn.uio.no/english/research/phd/application/application.html

Personal skills

The candidate must have excellent abilities to express herself/himself in English, both in writing and orally. It is expected that the candidate will be able to work independently, and within a relatively short time be able to take initiatives to make contacts and to collaborate with the national and international research community.

After 3 years of research training and conducting research, it is expected that the candidate will successfully complete the PhD degree.

In order to obtain admission to the PhD research training program at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, an approved project description (written in cooperation with the PhD supervisors) must be submitted no later than two months after taking up the position. For more information see:
We offer

- Salary NOK 479 600 - 523 200 per annum depending on qualifications and seniority as PhD Research Student (position code 1017)
- Attractive welfare benefits and a generous pension agreement
- Vibrant international academic environment
- Career development programmes
- Oslo's family-friendly surroundings with their rich opportunities for culture and outdoor activities

How to apply

The application must include:

- Cover letter - statement of motivation and research interests
- CV (summarizing education, positions and academic work - scientific publications)
- Copies of the original bachelor and master’s degree diploma, transcripts of records and letters of recommendation
- Documentation of English proficiency
- List of publications and academic work that the applicant wishes to be considered by the evaluation committee
- Names and contact details of 2-3 references (name, relation to candidate, e-mail and telephone number)

The application with attachments must be delivered in our electronic recruiting system (please follow the link “Apply for this job”). Foreign applicants are advised to attach an explanation of their University's grading system. Please note that all documents should be in English or a Scandinavian language.

Applicants may be called in for an interview.

Formal regulations

Please see the guidelines and regulations for appointments to Research Fellowships at the University of Oslo.

According to the Norwegian Freedom of Information Act (Offentleglova) information about the applicant may be included in the public applicant list, also in cases where the applicant has requested non-disclosure.

The appointment may be shortened/given a more limited scope within the framework of the applicable guidelines on account of any previous employment in academic positions.

The University of Oslo has an agreement for all employees, aiming to secure rights to research results etc.

UiO has as a general goal to achieve gender balance in the workforce and to be open for recruiting people with ethnic minority backgrounds.

Contact information

For enquiries about this position please contact: Prof. Audun Jøsang, phone: +47 22845524, e-mail: josang@ifi.uio.no, or A.Prof. Nils Gruschka, phone: +47 22840858, e-mail: nilsgrus@ifi.uio.no.

For questions regarding the recruitment system, please contact: Torunn Standal Guttormsen, phone:+47 22854272, e-mail: t.s.guttormsen@mn.uio.no.

About the University of Oslo

The University of Oslo is Norway’s oldest and highest rated institution of research and education with 28 000 students and 7000 employees. Its broad range of academic disciplines and internationally esteemed research communities make UiO an important contributor to society.

The Department of Informatics (IFI) is one of nine departments belonging to the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. IFI is Norway’s largest university department for general education and research in Computer Science and related topics.

The Department has more than 1800 students on bachelor level, 600 master students, and over 240 PhDs and postdocs. The overall staff of the Department is close to 370 employees, about 280 of these in full time positions. The full time tenured academic staff is 75, mostly Full/Associate Professors.