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The UHasselt contributes to the knowledge economy in the Euregion. Active tutoring, made to measure for the students, topquality research in specific domains and an international orientation are our university's characteristics.
Owing to its small size, the university and its employees are building up to an organisation together where it is a pleasure to work.
Qualities are the only means by which people are measured. Gender, ethnicity, handicap, nationality and age are not taken into consideration.

The Faculty of Medicine and Life Sciences, research institute Biomedical Research Institute of Hasselt University seeks a (m/f)

PhD student health data sciences and informatics (UH-KUL joint PhD position)

Background

This interdisciplinary research project is a collaboration between the faculty of Medicine and Life Sciences, Biomedical Research Institute, UHasselt and the faculty of Engineering Technology, Stadius Centre for Dynamical Systems, Signal Processing and Data Analytics, KU Leuven.
This project is part of ELIXIR (human health, ELIXIR Belgium). ELIXIR is an ESFRI Research Infrastructure and e-infrastructure project. ELIXIR includes 20 countries covering more than 180 research organisation all over Europe. The Belgian ELIXIR Node is led by VIB and its partners are the universities of Ghent, Leuven, Antwerp, Brussels, Hasselt and Liège. The infrastructure developed in this project will be one of the key services supported by the Belgian ELIXIR Node. Next to this, this project is embedded in an international project referred to as the MS Data Alliance (MSDA) project. The MSDA joins registry custodians (>20 registries, >300.000 patients), patients societies (>30 countries), MS umbrella organisations and regulatory decision-making.

Job content

You will get the opportunity to help us realise our mission: striving towards a next generation of management of chronic disease, with a specific interest in the neurodegenerative disease multiple sclerosis (MS).
You are responsible to develop and implement the "Multiple Sclerosis Data Alliance (MSDA) cohort explorer". The MSDA cohort explorer enables searching aggregated data across different MS registries and cohorts after data is mapped to a harmonized data template. The subject and variable selection tools in the MSDA cohort explorer allow end-users to identify MS data cohorts suitable for their (research-) questions and facilitates the initiation of (new) collaborations with these MS cohorts. You will leverage the knowledge gained in innovative medicine initiative projects like the European Medical Information Framework, the European Health Data and Evidence Network, Electronical Health Records for Clinical Research and Big Data for Better Outcomes. In a next phase, you are responsible to innovate the infrastructure and make it fit-for-purpose for privacy-preserved machine learning algorithms.

Profile

- You obtained a master degree in computer science, informatics or engineering (or equivalent) Final-year students are (likewise) encouraged to apply.
- You show a significant enthusiasm for, and knowledge in medical informatics and data infrastructures. Mention in your motivation letter previous experience with developing and implementing IT infrastructures, especially in the medical field.
- You are stress resistant and able to persevere in a competitive environment in which you adhere to deadlines.
- You have a strong interest in working on supporting medical applications of machine learning algorithms.
- You are able to communicate adequately to different targets audiences in the interdisciplinary team (neurologists, biomedics, patient organizations, ...).
- You are motivated, curious and creative.
- You have excellent oral and written communication skills in English.
- You are able to communicate about your work at local and international congresses and to people from other disciplines.
- To guarantee the progress of this project, you are available in the short term.
- You will be working at the campus Diepenbeek (BIOMED, UHasselt), as well as at the campus Arenberg in Leuven (STADIUS, KU Leuven). You show the necessary flexibility in your working location.

Offer
You will be appointed and paid as PhD student.
We offer full-time employment for a PhD-researcher. The appointment will be for a period of 2 years and will be extended for another 2 years after positive evaluation.

Selection procedure
You can only apply online up to and including **22 March 2019**.
The selection procedure consists of a preselection based on application file and an interview.
Please attach a motivation letter to your application file.More about working at Hasselt University? Check www.uhasselt.be/vacancies for our staff benefits.

Further information
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Hasselt University has a long tradition of paying attention to research careers. In recognition of this, the European Commission granted Hasselt University in 2011 as the first Flemish university with the right to use the 'HR Excellence in Research' logo.