Job Opening

Optics Scientist or Research Engineer for Central Scientific Facility

We study intelligent systems, focusing on which computations allow synthetic and natural intelligent systems to perform perception, action, and learning. Our site in Tübingen, Germany is part of a campus with three Max Planck institutes and scientists from around the world. Three research departments collaborate on topics in machine learning, perception, and robotics to understand intelligent systems.

We already work with a variety of systems, including cameras (ranging from off-the-shelf SLRs to cooled emCCDs and sCMOS), optical hardware (telescopes, wavefront sensors, tracking mounts), and computational photographic and computer vision systems.

Your responsibilities
You will help build a central scientific facility for Optics and Sensing. You will work closely with researchers from across the Institute's departments and research groups to investigate, develop, and implement technologies in the above fields. Half of your time will be devoted to research, involving other scientists and PhD students.

Requirements

- PhD or extensive experience in optics or optics-related fields.
- Hands-on experience with optical experimentation, optical design and system implementation, telescopes and astronomical camera systems, plus an open mind to get involved in other areas of the central scientific facility.
- Knowledge of an optical design software like Zemax, OSLO, or CodeV.
- An interest in computing, and programming skills in C, Matlab, or Python.
- Good project management skills, and the ability to get a job done.
- Good English skills; German language skills are not required, but a plus.
- Eagerness to get your hands dirty with optical set-ups and solve challenging computational photography problems.
- A desire to create the future.

Our offer
Salaries will be based on previous experience according to TVöD guidelines (E9 to E15). An initial contract will be normally be offered for 2 years. Subsequent tenure is possible. This is a full-time position. The Max Planck Society is committed to employing more handicapped individuals and especially
encourages them to apply. The Max Planck Society seeks to increase the number of women in areas where they are underrepresented and therefore explicitly encourages women to apply. The position will be open until filled or no longer needed. Preference will be given to applications received by 30 June, 2015.

In case of any questions on the technical aspects of the position, please contact Prof. Bernhard Schölkopf at bs@tuebingen.mpg.de, with CC to sabrina.jung@tuebingen.mpg.de. For administrative questions, please contact Sabrina Jung at sabrina.jung@tuebingen.mpg.de. More information about the Tübingen site of our institute can be found at http://is.tue.mp.mp.de/.

Contact
Candidates should send their application quoting the reference number 31.15. in English via e-mail to personal@vw.mpi-stuttgart.mpg.de.

The application should include the following in PDF format (ideally, in a single file):
1) Your CV
2) Publication list
3) Scanned certificates, and references letters (if available) or contact details of three referees
4) 1-2 page statement of purpose, addressing the following points: (i) Why do you apply, and what makes you a good match for this opening? (ii) List relevant work experience with emphasis on optical experimentation, system implementation, astronomical instrumentation. Briefly explain your role in the listed projects. (iii) The position also includes the possibility to do independent research. Are there research topics and questions that you would ideally like to pursue?

Note that we will only consider applications that include the above statement of purpose.

If you prefer to send a hardcopy application, you may do so. Please address it to:

Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems
Gemeinsame Verwaltung
Heisenbergstr. 1
70569 Stuttgart
Germany

Announcement from 01 June, 2015 to 30 June, 2015