

Job offer for a student research assistant



MCC's working group "Applied Sustainability Science" is recruiting a student research assistant with strong quantitative and programming skills for 10-20 hours per week. The position will support computational social science and computer-assisted research synthesis work within the ARIADNE project. Tasks could include web development, web scraping, natural language processing applications and data visualization in the context of climate policy analysis.

Job description

The successful candidate will be located at the Mercator Research Institute on Global Commons and Climate Change (MCC) in Berlin and be part of the working group "Applied Sustainability Science". The candidate will support tasks for the research project ARIADNE, funded by the German Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF). ARIADNE evaluates policy options for the German energy transition and reaching the German climate goals. The candidate will assist the group in their computational evaluation of public discourses about climate policy and/or the synthesis of large bodies of climate policy research. Tasks could include web development, machine learning applications in the field of natural language processing, web scraping, implementing interactive tools for data visualization and preparation of results and figures for scientific publications. We do not expect proficiency in all tasks and provide an environment for learning.

Requirements

Applicants need experience in scientific programming with Python or comparable languages and strong analytical skills. They should be able to collaborate and communicate in a multidisciplinary research team. Our research requires that candidates can tackle new tasks and solve problems independently and are ready to immerse themselves in interdisciplinary methodologies and research questions. Applications from students of all fields are welcome, but an interest in interdisciplinary research on climate policy is required. Experience with natural language processing and machine learning are an advantage.

Appointment terms

The position is to be filled as soon as possible. We require the successful candidate to be able to spend 10-20 hours per week on the job. Salary for the position is according to TV Stud Berlin (currently 12,50 €/h). The contract duration is for one year with potential extension subject to project funding. MCC follows a recruitment strategy that promotes equality and diversity and tolerance. We explicitly encourage qualified female candidates to apply. It provides a collaborative and international research and working atmosphere and offers flexible working hours. We also encourage candidates who seek to conduct a Bachelor or Master thesis in climate policy research and can provide support and supervision if an arrangement with the candidate's university can be found.

Application

Please send an e-mail with your application to Finn Müller-Hansen (mueller-hansen@mcc-berlin.net) with reference to SRA-2020-2. Please also get in touch in case of related questions. Your

application should contain a motivation letter, your Curriculum Vitae and copies of relevant certificates. Suitable applicants will be invited for a job interview until the position is filled. Please note that only short-listed candidates will be contacted for a job interview.

Portrait of the MCC

MCC was founded in 2012 by Stiftung Mercator and the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) and since 2014 it is affiliated with the Technical University (TU) Berlin. Our research is carried out in seven working groups and one special task force and it addresses the grand challenges of climate change and of governing the global commons. Our research is rooted primarily in economics and other social sciences. We provide scientific policy advice and aim to identify policy-relevant solutions. Cooperation with high-profile international partner organizations provides a network of excellence and foster the high quality of the research at MCC. Within a few years, MCC has established itself prominently in the climate policy research landscape, ranked as No. 1 of climate think tanks in Europe.

For more information about the institute, please visit <http://www.mcc-berlin.net>.