Call for expression of interest for one (1) staff position "Management and Innovation Officer" at the Institute of Computer Science (ICS) Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH)

Position: One (1) position for the HORIZON project TITAN
Project: “TITAN – Frugal Artificial Intelligence and Application in Astrophysics” (Grant Agreement number: 101086741) funded under HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-TALENTS-01
Desired starting date: February 1st, 2024
Duration: 1 year with possibility of extension for the project duration
Location: Heraklion, Crete, Greece
Opening date: 24/10/2023
Closing date: 8/11/2023
Ref.: “TITAN-staff-management_and_innovation”

Description

The HORIZON project “TITAN – Frugal Artificial Intelligence and Application in Astrophysics”, funded under the HORIZON-WIDER-2022-TALENTS-01 project is aligned with the strategic vision of the Institutes of Astrophysics (IA) and Computer Science (ICS) at FORTH to establish a new joint Program on Astroinformatics. The objective is to create a research team of excellence in statistical data science and machine learning for astrophysics, together with the associated educational and technology innovation programs. The topic is at the forefront of Astrophysics research, addresses both scientific and engineering challenges that align with future space missions, and creates opportunities for innovative synergies with the space sector.
The goal is to unlock the potential of FORTH, the Cretan region and Greece through the implementation of a set of measures geared towards capacity building, institutional development and structural change, intersectoral and international partnership activities bolstering a responsible research and innovation culture. TITAN will help integrate FORTH into the Smart Specialization Strategy of Greece, enhance the innovation capacity of FORTH, and forge collaboration with the space industry making best utilization of FORTH’s infrastructure and expertise.

Within this project, we are seeking a highly skilled and passionate Management and Innovation Officer. The successful candidate will be responsible for targeting EU R&I programs, identifying and commercializing exploitable research outcomes, establishing relations with the industry, helping enhance entrepreneurship, and exploring expansion of graduate educational programs in computational intelligence applications.

The responsibilities for this position include:

- Project management, research, education, and innovation support of the TITAN project
- Coordinate with the grant management office and the PRAXI Network of FORTH for the best utilization of the generated knowledge and results.
- Help design and implement a sustainable long-term resource mobilization strategy, in collaboration with the international network of the ERA Chair holder, for consortium building to enable easier penetration to existing consortia. This will elevate experience in competitive proposals preparation and coordination for increasing TITAN’s team success rate in the Horizon Europe funding program.
- Organize the dissemination of the project activities and results and ensure the exploitation of its outcomes. Target groups comprise the scientific community, industrial stakeholders, policy makers, and actors interested in innovative technologies.
- Support the ERA Chair to establish academia-industry programs, as well in administrative and IP Rights management for industrial applications. Identify business opportunities for the exploitable research outcomes, whilst raising awareness in industry for the potential of TITAN’s technologies.
- Draft agreements with industrial partners to be negotiated and signed case-by-case for determining the best business model (e.g. license, sale), along with the terms and conditions pertaining to IPR, access rights, and exploitation of background and results.
- Assist in the establishment of at least one spin-off capitalizing on TITAN’s key outcomes to provide computational tools and services for frugal, trustworthy and generalizable physics-driven AI to maximize the information content in high-dimensional multimodal data in a customizable and intelligent way.

The technical staff will be located at the premises of FORTH with a strong collaboration with the CosmoStat Laboratory at CEA Saclay. The staff will be supervised by Jean-Luc Starck (FORTH/CEA), Panagiotis Tsakalides (FORTH), and Grigorios Tsagkatakis (FORTH).

Required qualifications:

- MSc/BSc in Computer Science, Physics, Engineering or a related field
- Experience in building and managing industry relations
- 3+ years working experience in European and/or National IT Research projects
- Proven ability to represent the team/laboratory/institute in both national and international level
- Good knowledge of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)
- Good knowledge of English
- Excellent problem-solving skills, strong attention to detail, and ability to work both independently and collaboratively in a team.
- Ability to coordinate and manage multiple activities simultaneously
- Physical presence at FORTH, Heraklion, Crete for the duration of the position
Desired qualifications:
• MSc in Innovation/Technology Management (or actively pursuing it)
• Previous involvement in Spin-off ventures within the IT industry

Application Submission
Interested candidates can submit their applications via http://www.ics.forth.gr/jobs/en/ using the link “Apply for the position” under the announcement. Applications must include:
• Detailed CV, including qualifications and interests in the above areas and proof thereof
• Scanned copies of academic titles; academic transcripts for undergraduate and postgraduate degrees
• Letters of recommendation, detailed presentation of prior work, studies and/or publications, demonstrating knowledge of desired skills.

Contact Information:
For information and questions about the advertised position, the activity of the group or the Institute, please contact Jean-Luc Starck at jstarck@cea.fr and Panagiotis Tsakalides at tsakalid@ics.forth.gr.

Selection procedure
Applications will be evaluated by a 3-member committee headed by the ERA Chair, Dr. J-L. Starck, and they will be screened by the TITAN international scientific advisory board. In the case candidates are invited for an interview, they will either be invited to participate in person or via teleconference. Beyond scientific excellence, selection criteria will include gender and diversity aspects as well as complementary skills and fit of the candidate to the existing team.

Selection Announcement
The result of the selection will be announced on the website of ICS-FORTH. Candidates have the right to appeal the selection decision, by addressing their written objection to the ICS secretariat within five (5) days since the results announcement on the web. They also have the right to access (a) the files of the candidates as well as (b) the table of candidates’ scores (ranking of candidates results). All the above information related to the selection procedure will be available at the secretariat of ICS-FORTH in line with the Hellenic Data Protection Authority. Access to personal data of co-candidates shall be limited to personal data (and relevant data) and supporting documents which have been the basis of the evaluation of the candidates for the specific post(s). Prior to the announcement of the personal data and/or documents of the co-candidates to the applicant, FORTH will inform the data subjects in an appropriate way.

Disclaimer
FORTH is compliant with all legal procedures for the processing of personal data as defined by the Regulation EU/2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data.

FORTH processes the personal data and relevant supporting documents that you have submitted to us. Processing of that data is carried out exclusively for the needs and purposes of this specific call. Such data shall not be transmitted to or communicated to any third party unless required by law.

FORTH retains the above data up to the announcement of the final results of the call, unless further process and reservation is required by law or for purposes of exercise, enforcement, prosecution of certain one’s legitimate legal rights’ as defined in the Regulation EU/2016/679 and/or in national law.

We inform you that under the Regulation EU/2016/679 you have the rights to be informed about your personal data, access to, rectification and erasure, restrictions of process and objection to as provided by applicable regulation and national laws.
We acknowledge also to you, that you have the right to file a complaint to the national Data Protection Authority. For any further information regarding exercise of your personal data protection rights, you may contact the Data Protection Officer at FORTH at dpo@admin.forth.gr.

You have the right to withdraw your application and consent for the processing of your personal data at any time. We inform you that, in this case, FORTH shall destroy such documents and/or supporting documents submitted and shall delete the related personal data.