University of Zurich UZH

Department of Geography

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PhD positions with the ERC Advanced Project GeoViSense
(PI Sara Irina Fabrikant)

The Geographic Information Visualization and Analysis (GIVA) group at the University of Zurich invites applications for a doctoral position in the context of the ERC Advanced Project GeoViSense, lead by the GIVA group head and PI Sara Irina Fabrikant. This project, at the interface of GIScience (geovisual analytics) and neuro-cognitive science aims to study how we make space-time decisions with geographic information displays (GIDs) in varying mobile decision making contexts, and to develop respective display design guidelines for future user, task, and context-responsive GIDs to better support efficient and effective space-time decision making on the go.

We seek highly self-motivated researchers who will work efficiently and effectively on an interdisciplinary and collaborative research project involving large-screen Virtual Reality (VR) displays and mobile location-aware interfaces. Applications from women and under-represented groups are especially encouraged.

A completed MSc in Geography and/or a closely related discipline (e.g., Psychology, Cognitive|Neuro Science, Computer|Data Science, etc.) is required. You will be interested in carrying out a PhD, empirically examining the role of user, task, and changing contexts factors for mobile decision making with location-aware geographic information displays. You will have a good standard of written and spoken English. Knowledge of German, whilst not required, would be an advantage. Ideally, the substantive domains of contribution within GIScience include geographic information visualization/geovisual analytics, spatial cognition, quantitative (empirical) research methods, and related areas. A background in empirical data collection (indoors|outdoors), quantitative data analyses, and programming for Virtual Reality environments and/or for mobile applications would be an asset. The successful candidate will be hired on a 1-year scholarship (starting May 1st, 2018), which will be extended to the nominal 4-year PhD period after positive evaluation.

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For informal thematic inquiries about this position contact Prof. Sara Irina Fabrikant, Email: sara.fabrikant@geo.uzh.ch (subject: GeoViSense PhD), or by phone: +41-44-635-5150.

Applications must include a motivation letter, a CV, transcripts, and the contact information of two referees. Apply digitally with PDF document(s) to: Human Resources, Department of Geography, University of Zurich, Winterthurerstr. 190, CH-8057 Zurich, Switzerland, Email: yvonne.wagener@geo.uzh.ch (subject: GeoViSense PhD), Application period will begin March 1st, 2018 and closes on March 31st, 2018.