Ontology Systems Analyst

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Grant & Trust Professional

Ontology Systems Analyst

The Linked Infrastructure for Networked Cultural Scholarship (LINCS) Project, College of Arts

Temporary full-time from June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2023

Hiring #: 2020-0138

Please read the Application Instructions [1] before applying

The LINCS project ([https://lincsproject.ca](https://lincsproject.ca)) is seeking an Ontology Systems Analyst whose interests span computer science and the humanities, and who is keen to make a difference in how cultural knowledge circulates online.

This position offers an exciting opportunity to make a substantial contribution to a critical infrastructure project aiming for high impact within and beyond the academy. Reporting to the LINCS technical manager, the Ontology Systems Analyst will provide leadership in the development, modification, validation, maintenance, and application of ontologies that will form an important part of the LINCS infrastructure. This job is a full-time research scientist position for the duration of the 3-year grant, with the possibility of extension during the operations period if funds permit. Recruitment and initial work will be conducted remotely in keeping with the University’s COVID-19 research guidelines.

LINCS Project Summary:

The Linked Infrastructure for Networked Cultural Scholarship (LINCS) is a 3-year, $5-million-dollar Cyberinfrastructure project funded by the Canada Foundation for Innovation. It involves 6 Canadian Universities and major partners such as Libraries and Archives Canada. It directly supports 50+ researchers but the infrastructure aims to serve Canada’s 91,000 researchers in the humanities.

LINCS will convert large humanities datasets into an organized, interconnected, machine-processable set of resources for Canadian cultural research. LINCS will provide context for cultural material on the web, interlink it, and ground it in its sources, to produce a trusted resource for scholarly knowledge production. In the process it will extend or create the tools for doing so as a basis for further data conversion. It will host this massive dataset in a storage environment and make it accessible through a range of open-source software tools, including some produced by the project.

For more information, see ([https://lincsproject.ca](https://lincsproject.ca)).

Responsibilities:

The LINCS Ontology Specialist has responsibilities for managing the LINCS ontologies and aiding those in LINCS that will be using these ontologies in their software development. The Ontology Systems Analyst will be the main authority on the creation, adaption, storage, and application of the ontologies and software related to these ontologies on the Compute Canada Cloud in conjunction with the Compute Canada Cloud team and the LINCS network of developers and researchers.

The Ontology Specialist will:
- Coordinate the design, development, integration, and implementation of ontologies, and manage operations of ontologies and ontology tools for the LINCS CFI Cyberinfrastructure project;
- Evaluate external ontologies and how they will interact with the LINCS ontologies, data, and systems;
- Develop ontologies for the adoption of external ontologies and vocabularies with a view to achieving interoperability between datasets that differ in granularity, domain, and precision;
- Implement validation and testing protocols and scripts for all aspects of ontology development and deployment;
- Have overall accountability for LINCS ontology policies, development, implementation, documentation, and applications;
- Have overall accountability for stewardship of the ontologies and their related data sets and documentation. This includes documentation, backup, metadata, testing, and security;
- With the support of the Project Manager and Technical Manager, consult with the LINCS developers and researchers doing the natural language, semi-structured, and relational data conversion to identify and document ontology requirements, and to ensure consistent use of ontologies in those processes;
- Disseminate information about LINCS ontology work within Canada and internationally, including through participation in national and international meetings;
- Contribute to long-term strategic development and planning with a view to achieving long-term sustainability of the ontologies, and the LINCS infrastructure more generally.

Requirements:

- Ideal candidates have a Master’s degree in a relevant field (e.g.: Computer Science, Software Engineering, Library and Information Science or a Masters degree in the humanities coupled with significant expertise in and experience working with ontologies), combined with at least three (3) years of experience in a central role within one or more research, infrastructure or software development projects involving multiple stakeholders and external partners.
- Candidates with a Bachelor’s degree coupled with at least five (5) years of industry experience using ontologies and other semantic technologies would represent an acceptable combination of education and experience that would also be considered.
- A background in a humanities domain or experience working with humanities researchers is highly desirable.
- Experience with collaborative research software development is also considered an asset.

All applicants must include a cover letter with their CV/resume, and the names and contact information of three references.

Classification               Grant/ Trust fund position, Band P05

GTP Professional/Managerial Salary Bands [3]

At the University of Guelph, fostering a culture of inclusion [4] is an institutional imperative. The University invites and encourages applications from all qualified individuals, including from groups that are traditionally underrepresented in employment, who may contribute to further diversification of our Institution.

Posting Date: 2020 04 20
Closing Date: 2020 05 11

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