Postdoctoral Fellowships

For 2021-22, the C4AI Postdoctoral Fellowship in Artificial Intelligence, Ethics and the Future of Work supports advanced research by postdoctoral scholar within the core areas of artificial intelligence and humanities.

While the two types of fellows have some distinct training opportunities and responsibilities, they form a common Community and participate together in the Center's intellectual life.

INTERDISCIPLINARY ETHICS FELLOWSHIP

This program is rooted in the Project of AI for Humanities of the Center for Artificial Intelligence of the University of São Paulo.

The Center has the commitment to bringing ethical reflection to bear on pressing social problems. Consequently, fellows in this program are matched with an interdisciplinary research center on campus through which they can engage with oriented scholars.

We are interested in candidates with research in artificial intelligence for our partnership with the Center for Artificial Intelligence.

Fellows will participate in the regular intellectual life of the Center for Artificial Intelligence, interact with undergraduates in the C4AI for Humanities, teach one course per year at the C4AI (up to 20h), and contribute to an interdisciplinary ethics community across the campus.

FELLOWSHIP TRACKS

Research must be innovative in method, theory or field of application. The Postdoctoral of C4AI (Center for Artificial Intelligence) is aimed at distinguished researchers with a recent doctorate degree (up to 7 years).

In addition, the fellowship enables the development of research within the Center of Artificial Intelligence (C4AI) and the University of São Paulo (USP).

The Fellowships will be in two tracks (applicants will choose one):

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1) Artificial Intelligence and Ethics (such as, bias, the principle of transparency, responsibility etc);

2) Artificial Intelligence and The Future of Work.

SUBMISSION

We invite research proposals (2 pages maximum) relevant to the fields of investigation listed below, coming from candidates interested in the ethical, legal and technical analysis of Artificial Intelligence.

Research proposals may for example deal with topics such as:

- Algorithms and bias: ethical and political issues;

- Responsibility and Artificial Intelligence algorithms;

- Decision-making based on AI data and discrimination;

- Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Work;

- Unemployment and Artificial Intelligence: political policy and legal regulation.

PROFILE

To be successful, applicants should fulfil the following conditions:

- PhD degree in sociology, political science, philosophy, law or another relevant discipline (including computer science);

- Document research interests and relevant expertise;

- Letter of motivation;

- Two letters of recommendation: they should be from academics or legal professionals that can speak authoritatively on the applicant's abilities, specifically as they relate to the applicant's research proposal. Each letter of recommendation must be (A) in the form of a PDF file or a scanned electronic version of a hard copy and (B) signed by the person writing the letter;

- Recent Publications in English (minimum of 2 articles): Please note that the work must be originally published in English, not translated into English;

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- International applicants who are not native English speakers are required to submit a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score. International English Language Testing System (IELTS) scores and Certificate in Advanced English (CAE) will also be accepted.

    TOEFL: Score of at least 96 on the Internet-based TOEFL, or 600 on the paper-based exam. (There are no score requirements for specific sections of the exam.)

    IELTS: Score of at least 7.0. (There are no score requirements for specific sections of the exam.) Applicants with a lower score are strongly advised to take the TOEFL in order to increase their likelihood of admission.

- Although not required, knowledge of Portuguese is considered an asset.

DURATION OF POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

Postdoctoral Fellowships are granted for a minimum of 6 months and a maximum of 12 months.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

The Application deadline for the 2021-2022 C4AI Postdoctoral Fellowship in Artificial Intelligence, Ethics and the Future of Work is August 15, 2021.

Selected Fellows will be announced in August 30, 2021.

CANDIDATE'S OBLIGATIONS

1) Full dedication to research;
2) Not to make any modifications to the project without the prior consent of the C4AI;
3) To consult C4AI before accepting any financial support from any other funding source, public or private, for the development of the research project that concerns the fellowship awarded;
4) To submit scientific reports at the end of the research;

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5) To refer to the support from C4AI in theses, articles, books, abstracts of presentations in meetings and any other type of publication or form of outreach activities that result, wholly or in part, from the fellowship;

6) Attending virtual meetings with the C4AI Team.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION POLICY

At the Center for Artificial Intelligence, we acknowledge, appreciate and support the fundamental roles that diversity, equity and inclusion have in scientific progress and innovation.

We ensure a fair and equitable process for selection of awardees, because excellent science should be developed by everyone, not by one group of people.

In an effort to avoid implicit and explicit bias in our review process, the C4AI will blind all information pertaining to applicants' name, gender, ethnicity, citizenship status and institutional information from reviewers during the preliminary reviews.

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Fellows will be appointed for one year.

- Fellows will begin in September of the program year. Exceptionally, due to the Covid-19 restrictions to mobility, fellows will not be required to move to São Paulo.

- The award amount is R$ 7.373,10 over 12 months for salary and research expenditures.

- The Research Contingency Funds are intended for use in activities developed by the Fellowship holder, strictly related to the fellowship research project, during the term of the fellowship. The funds are equivalent to 15 per cent of the total amount of the fellowship (15% of the monthly stipend multiplied by the number of months granted). Together with the Scientific Report, the Fellowship holder

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should report on the use of the Research Contingency Funds. This Report should be approved by the Supervisor.

- This program is an Open Call; institutions are not limited to the number of candidates which may apply.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To apply, please send your research proposal, your CV, your letter of motivation, your publications, your two letters of recommendation and English certificate (except native speakers) to Fernando Osório (e-mail: c4ai-humanities@usp.br).

For further information, please contact professor Cristina Godoy (e-mail: cristinagodoy@usp.br).