The Alan Turing Institute

National Skills Lead

THE ALAN TURING INSTITUTE

There has never been a more significant time to work in data science and AI. There is recognition of the importance of these technologies to our economic and social future: the so-called fourth industrial revolution. The technical challenge of keeping our data secure and private has grown in its urgency and importance. At the same time, voices from academia, industry, and government are coming together to debate how these technologies should be governed and managed.

The Alan Turing Institute, as the UK's national institute for data science and artificial intelligence, plays an important part in driving forward advances in these technologies in order to change the world for the better.

The Institute is named in honour of Alan Turing, whose pioneering work in theoretical and applied mathematics, engineering and computing is considered to have laid the foundations for modern-day data science and artificial intelligence. The Institute's goals are to undertake world-class research, apply its research to real-world problems, driving economic impact and societal good, lead the training of a new generation of scientists, and shape the public conversation around data and algorithms.

After launching in 2015 with government funding from EPSRC and five founding universities, the Institute has grown an extensive network of university partners from across the UK and launched a number of major partnerships with industry, public and third sector. Today it is home to more than 500 researchers, a rapidly growing team of in house research software engineers and data scientists and a business team.

THE ROLE

Data science and AI are rapidly evolving fields and present an ever-complex skills landscape.The demand for skills in data science and AI across all sectors is growing rapidly but this demand cannot be met. As a national institute The Turing has a key role to play in the national skills agenda and it is part of our mission to train new generations.

We are now looking for a highly motivated and inspirational leader to position the Institute within this landscape by developing and driving an ambitious skills strategy. As a new role we also expect the successful candidate to shape the role itself.

The Turing's National Skills Lead will lead on the technical skills agenda with a focus on external training programmes, for example our work with AI/EPSRC CDTs , our new Internship Network and supporting the Turing's involvement on the national Data Skills Taskforce.

The role will complement the Head of Professional and Academic Development who will lead on the development and delivery of internal training programmes.

Critical to the success of this role will be the individual's ability to work with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders, to understand the data science and AI skills landscape and to identify where and how the Institute can achieve maximum impact.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Lead and deliver the data science and AI skills landscape mapping project and work with Institute leaderships and stakeholders to understand and identify areas where the Insititute can have maximum impact
- Lead the development of the Institute's skills strategy
- Set-up and chair skills/training working groups as appropriate
- Contribute to the work of the Training working group of the Research Innovation and Advisory Committee (RIAC)
- Represent the Turing on external skills/training advisory groups/committees
- Write business case and funding bids to support skills activity
- Lead the Institute's external training activities including, but not limited to: AI/EPSRC and CDTs, and the Internship Network and support the Turing's involvement on the national Data Skills Taskforce
- Input into internal skills training provision as required
- Active role in the Data Study Groups and Data Science for Social Good
- Evaluation and development of proposals from university partners in the skills space
- Manage a small team

PERSON SPECIFICATION

The successful candidate will have:

ESSENTIAL

- Significant research in AI, data science or relevant scientific discipline
- Experience of leading training/skills programmes and/or teaching experience and curriculum development at postgraduate level in higher education
- Diplomatic, able to negotiate and to apply judgement in often complex areas
- Able to analyse and interpret data to guide evaluation of projects
- Ability to develop and manage effective relationships with stakeholders at all levels of seniority
- Excellent communication skills (written and verbal)
- Ability to demonstrate initiative and flexibility to manage competing demands and pressures whilst remaining calm
- Exceptional organisational skills combined with a strong attention to detail
- Ability to lead a small team with a track record of success
- Evidence of own continued professional development

DESIRABLE

- PhD or MSc or equivalent experience, in AI, data science or a related field
- An understanding of the challenges in the AI/data science skills space
- Previous experience in a similar role

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

If you are interested in this opportunity, please click the apply button below. You will need to register on the applicant portal and complete the application form including your CV, covering letter and contact details for your referees. If you have questions about the role or would like to apply using a different format, please contact them on 0203 862 3394 or email recruitment@turing.ac.uk.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 23 February 2020

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This role is offered on a full-time or part time basis (0.5FTE), initially on a 12-month fixed-term contract with a view to permenency.

Secondments from University Partners are welcome.

The role is offered on competitive salary plus excellent benefits. https://www.turing.ac.uk/work-turing/why-work-turing/employee-benefits

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The Alan Turing Institute is committed to creating an environment where diversity is valued and everyone is treated fairly. In accordance with the Equality Act, we welcome applications from anyone who meets the specific criteria of the post regardless of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender reassignment, marital and civil partnership status, pregnancy, religion or belief or sexual orientation. Reasonable adjustments to the interview process can also be made for any candidates with a disability. Happy to talk flexible working.

Please note all offers of employment are subject to continuous eligibility to work in the UK and satisfactory pre-employment security screening which includes a DBS Check.

Full details on the pre-employment screening process can be requested from HR@turing.ac.uk*.*