Working Title: Research Computing Facilitator

Official title: RESEARCHER(E05DN) or ASSOC RESEARCHER(E05FN) or ASST RESEARCHER(E05LN)

Degree and area of specialization:
A Master's degree (MS or MA) or higher in a research focused area of study is preferred. Candidates with a Bachelor's degree and significant experience will also be considered (experience equivalent to a master's degree).

Minimum number of years and type of relevant work experience:
At least two years of experience in a compute- and/or data-intensive research area is required.

Candidates will:
- demonstrate an appreciation for a range of computer and data intensive research and be experienced in at least one research area such as life sciences, physical sciences, social sciences, or the humanities
- have strong oral and written communication skills, with attention to interpersonal relationships and professionalism
- have a positive attitude and demonstrate a history of self-motivation
- demonstrate strong abilities in critical analysis and creative problem solving
- be able to work independently and as part of a dynamic interdisciplinary team
- possess basic skills with scripting languages like Unix shell, Python, or Perl

Ideal candidates will demonstrate experience applying software tools and computing technologies to research problems.

In addition to the core facilitator role, there may be opportunities to specialize in one of a diverse set of areas. Knowledge/Experience in one or more of the following areas will be a plus, but not essential:
- familiarity with academic computing centers/services, including national initiatives such as the Open Science Grid or XSEDE
- experience using a range of bioinformatics software tools and technologies
- significant experience and demonstrated interest in education, outreach, community-building or communication activities
- contribution to a Software Carpentry bootcamp or other computation-focused training effort
- experience using, compiling, or programming MPI-based code

Principal duties:
The UW-Madison Advanced Computing Infrastructure (ACI) is seeking an individual to advance the research activities of faculty members, students, and staff in a broad range of scholarly disciplines that rely on computing. Research Computing Facilitators will work with researchers on campus to find appropriate computationally-based solutions to problems impeding their research, expecting that many will leverage the world-class high-throughput and high-performance computing capabilities on our campus. The successful applicant will gain a wide range of skills at this job and will have the opportunity to work with experts in a range of research areas and computational technologies through the partnerships of the Advanced Computing Infrastructure (ACI).

The responsibilities of this position will divided appropriately between the following categories:

1. Help campus researchers leverage computing resources and expertise networks to accelerate their research efforts. (60%)

Work with faculty, students, and staff to understand aspects of their research that rely on, or could be aided by, current computational methodologies. Work with researchers to maximize the progress of their research workflows through the use of high-throughput and high-performance computing resources. Assist in the preparation of grant proposals for projects in which a computational or data
management component could be a critical element of success. Working with other facilitators, develop a knowledge and interpersonal network, and leverage that network to facilitate progress for research projects, including the identification of potential intra- and inter-campus collaborations.

2. Education and outreach. (25%)

Help campus researchers to embrace the tools of modern reproducible computational research to accelerate their data analysis. Identify researcher needs for training in a variety of computational aspects. As part of a team of facilitators and IT staff, contribute to the development and implementation of training programs to meet those needs. Through these engagements and other outreach activities, identify and recruit additional users of campus computing facilities, and educate potential campus clients on computational possibilities.

3. Explore and document solutions to research computing challenges. (15%)

The facilitator will document activities to provide data for assessment and critical analysis of ACI performance, and will suggest additional developments that would further the goals and mission of the ACI. As a result of interactions with researchers, the facilitator will create documents that describe given research problems and propose how to apply existing or new solutions to address them. The successful facilitator will leverage this information to contribute intellectually to the development of novel initiatives, technologies, and service solutions that address the evolving needs of the campus research community.

Additional Information:

This position will work closely with staff at the Center for High Throughput Computing (CHTC), the Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery (WID), the Division of Information Technology (DoIT), and other ACI partners.

A criminal background check will be conducted prior to hiring.

A period of evaluation will be required

Employee class: Academic Staff
Department(s): GRAD/WI INST DISC
Full time salary rate: Minimum $50,000 ANNUAL (12 months)
Depending on Qualifications
Term: This is a renewable appointment.
Appointment percent: 100%
Anticipated begin date: June 22, 2014
Number of positions: 2
Department Contact:
Kory Breuer
Wisconsin Institute for Discovery
330 N. Orchard Street
Madison, WI 53715
Phone: 608-316-4496
Phone TTY: 608-263-2473
Fax: N/A
Email: kbreuer@discovery.wisc.edu

HOW TO APPLY:

Unless another application procedure has been specified above, please send resume and cover letter referring to Position Vacancy Listing # 79437 to the contact indicated above.

To ensure consideration, application must be received by: June 17, 2014
NOTE: Unless confidentiality is requested in writing, information regarding the names of applicants must be released upon request. Finalists cannot be guaranteed confidentiality.

UW-Madison is required by law to request data from applicants for employment in order to monitor our recruitment and selection practices. In order for us to meet this federal reporting requirement, please go to http://www.oed.wisc.edu/reports-and-forms.htm to fill out the Voluntary Self-Identification of Disability Form and the Applicant Self-Identification Form for Protected Veterans. Please reference the Position Vacancy Number when uploading your completed forms. Completing these forms is voluntary and your responses will be kept confidential and is not considered as part of the hiring criteria.

UW-Madison is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. We promote excellence through diversity and encourage all qualified individuals to apply.

For more academic job opportunities at the University of Wisconsin-Madison please see http://www.ohr.wisc.edu/pvl/pvl_internet_report_home.html
For more information on the University of Wisconsin-Madison Office of Human Resources please see http://www.ohr.wisc.edu/
For more information on the University of Wisconsin-Madison see our home page at http://www.wisc.edu/
For UW Madison Campus Safety Information see http://www.wisc.edu/students/faculty/safety.htm