



Position vacant: Graduate Student Researcher in Computational Linguistics at Simon Fraser University (Greater Vancouver, Canada)

Rank or Title: Researcher (PhD or MA level)

Linguistic fields: Computational Linguistics, Discourse Analysis, Corpus Linguistics, Discourse Relations

Application deadline: February 1, 2009

University address: Department of Linguistics, Simon Fraser University, 8888 University Drive, Burnaby, BC, V5A 1S6, Canada

Application address: Email applications only to contact person below

Contact information: Prof. Maite Taboada (mtaboada@sfu.ca)

Job description:

Research Assistant position within the project "Discourse Parsing for Summarization and Sentiment Detection", a project funded by a grant to Maite Taboada from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC). The project aims at building a parser that identifies discourse relations in text, with two applications in mind: summarization and sentiment detection. For more information on the project, please visit:

<http://www.sfu.ca/~mtaboada/research/nserc-project.html>

The successful applicant will demonstrate an interest in one or more of the following areas: computational linguistics, discourse/coherence relations, corpus linguistics. Although the position is designed to develop research skills, priority will be given to candidates with background in computational linguistics, and in particular with programming experience. The student is free to pursue his or her own thesis research in other areas, but there are also opportunities to combine thesis/dissertation work with the RA work.

The initial research stipend is for one year at the following levels: CAD\$12,000 (MA) or CAD\$15,000 (PhD), renewable depending on performance and funding availability. The successful applicant is also eligible for travel funding and additional forms of support available to SFU students, including teaching assistantships and marker positions. For more information on funding, please visit: <http://www.sfu.ca/linguistics/graduate/GradFunding.html>. **Eligibility for this position is conditional on acceptance to the graduate program of Linguistics at SFU (deadline: Feb. 1, 2009, <http://www.sfu.ca/linguistics/graduate/admissions.html>, for a start in September 2009).**

Please note that you need to send a complete application to the Department of Linguistics for entry into the graduate program; applications sent only to the contact above will be disregarded, since hiring is contingent on enrollment in the masters or PhD program.

How to apply for the RA position:

Send two PDF documents to mtaboada@sfu.ca: (i) a CV/transcript documenting the applicant's background, contact information and programming/computational experience; and (ii) a one page description of the applicant's research interests and current and future projects. Please use your name in the file name (e.g., Smith_CV.pdf). **Only PDF documents will be accepted.**

Research productivity and creativity, as well as a research focus aligned with the above stated areas, are important criteria in the assessment of applications.

How to apply to the Linguistics department:

<http://www.sfu.ca/linguistics/graduate/admissions.html>

Further information:

About the graduate program in Linguistics:

<http://www.sfu.ca/linguistics/graduate/index.html>

http://www.sfu.ca/linguistics/graduate/Grad_Brochure.pdf

http://www.sfu.ca/linguistics/graduate/SFU_Ling_Poster.pdf

Simon Fraser University (<http://www.sfu.ca/>) is a mid-sized university, with over 25,000 students and more than 700 tenure-track faculty. The main campus is in Burnaby, atop Burnaby Mountain, about 40 minutes by car from downtown Vancouver.

Vancouver (<http://www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/> and <http://www.tourismvancouver.com/>) is the largest city in the province of British Columbia. It's surrounded by water on three sides, with the Coast Mountain Range on its North. Vancouver boasts one of the mildest climates in Canada, spectacular natural scenery and a bustling metropolitan core. The Greater Vancouver region, including Burnaby (<http://www.city.burnaby.bc.ca/>), has a population of more than 2 million people, making it the third largest metropolitan area in Canada.