Research Assistant

Open University    Milton Keynes, UK

Apply

The Institute of Coding (IoC – www.instituteofcoding.org) is a new, national initiative, which brings together a range of universities, industry, training providers and professional bodies to address the UK’s digital skills gaps.

The Institute’s vision is to enhance the education and employability of every IoC learner and ensure that employers and individuals across the UK can access the skills they need to compete in the global digital economy. This unique and innovative collaboration has been made possible with £20m from the Higher Education Funding Council for England and match funding from universities and industry partners.

The Institute of Coding will develop and deliver innovative, industry-focused higher education across the UK. It will develop accredited degree schemes and short courses aimed at professionals in a wide range of sectors, as well as working to widen the participation of women, returners to work and hard to reach groups.

The Open University leads the IoC’s first theme on university learning, which aims to influence computer science teaching in universities nationally. Based in the OU STEM Faculty, the project teams from the Knowledge Media Institute and the School of Computing and Communications will use our extensive know-how in delivering high quality learning at scale to address the current skills gaps in new and emerging areas such as Data Science and Cyber Security. An important part of that theme will be collaboration with a number of IoC partners and industry representing employers and educators to create an IoC industrial accreditation standard, a modular curriculum, and mainstreaming data analytics to enhance teaching and improve educational outcomes.

The Knowledge Media Institute (KMi) is a distinct research unit within the Faculty of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) at the Open University. KMi is looking for a Research Assistant or a Research Associate to work on the IoC project – how blockchains can be used to store student accreditation and lifelong learning records in order to enhance employability.

If you would like to apply, see post description below.

Knowledge Media Institute (KMi)
£29,799 – £38,833 (Grade AC1 / AC2), Ref: 14482
Based in Milton Keynes
Temporary contract for 18 months

This IoC blockchain learning verification work will build on the work of the Knowledge Media Institute at the Open University (KMi) who have built up an active research and development group focusing on blockchain and distributed ledger technologies. Members of KMi are working on the use of blockchains to create a trustable, decentralised repository for educational certification, ePortfolios and datasets with privacy concerns or which could be subject to tampering. We are also working on connecting blockchains with Linked Data. More information on our work can be found at: http://blockchain.open.ac.uk/.

Closing date: 12 noon on 31 May 2018

Interview date: to be advised

For detailed information and how to apply go to http://www.open.ac.uk/about/employment/vacancies/research-assistant-associate-blockchain-learning-verification-14482 call the Recruitment Co-ordinator on +44 (0)1908 654774 or email kmi-recruitment@open.ac.uk quoting the reference number.

We promote diversity in employment and welcome applications from all sections of the community.

https://www.statsjobs.com/job/reaserch-assistant/