



PhD Student in Urban Geographic Information Science

The GIScience Center of the Department of Geography at the University of Zurich invites applications for a PhD student to join our interdisciplinary research team. The GIScience Center at the Department of Geography hosts several research groups working on diverse topics including movement analysis, digital cartography and mobile systems, language and space, geographic information retrieval, digital terrain modeling, uncertainty modeling, geovisual analytics, spatial cognition and urban informatics.

The advertised PhD student position will be expected to contribute to a broader research focused on computational methods to analyse urban environments. Possible topics include the development of methods for the analysis of large spatial networks, the development of methods contributing to the understanding of mobility in indoor spaces, or methods enabling a systematic investigation of the functional structure of cities. Using computational approaches exploiting large datasets, the PhD student will develop algorithms and measures applicable to the specific research and will validate the results using diverse experimental approaches. The successful candidate is expected to choose a research focus and write a detailed research proposal within the first 6 months of his/her starting day.

We are seeking a highly motivated, creative thinker passionate about science and with a desire to develop a research career. Applicants will have completed an excellent final degree (Master or equivalent) in a relevant field, such as Geographic Information Science, Geography, Computer Science, Information Science, or Geomatics before appointment. We further expect knowledge of network analysis, spatial analysis, statistics and/or data mining; and basic programming skills and/or formal methods, as well as a willingness to develop these further. Applicants should have a very good standard of written and spoken English. Fluency in, or a willingness to learn, one or more of Switzerland's national languages would also be an advantage. The successful candidate will also have an autonomous and self-reliant working style; high motivation to work collaboratively within a team; and a genuine interest in interdisciplinary collaboration.

We offer excellent working conditions, a stimulating and vibrant research environment and Zurich's high quality of life. The candidate will be part of the Zurich Graduate School in Geography providing academic and professional support to doctoral students in Geography. The PhD candidate will be supervised by Dr. Martin Tomko and will be a member of the GIS Unit within the GIScience Center (www.geo.uzh.ch/gis).

To apply, send your curriculum vitae, a motivation statement, transcripts, and contact details for two referees (including e-mail addresses) in a single PDF document with the applicant's name as file name by 15 May 2015 to annica.mandola@geo.uzh.ch (subject: "PhD in Urban GIScience"). For further questions, contact Martin Tomko (martin.tomko@geo.uzh.ch).

The position will start on 01 July 2015, or as soon as possible thereafter, and is funded for three years, with an option for an extension of up to four years.