

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE GRANTING OF RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS FOR 1 MASTER SCHOLARSHIP

Job Offer: **Master's Research Scholarship**

Position reference: **COFAC/ULHT/CICANT/GHOST-2/2023**

Main research area: **Data Science/ Computer Science**

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Objective and Scope

Job Description:

Universidade Lusófona, established by COFAC - Cooperativa de Formação e Animação Cultural. CRL, hereby announces a call for the award of 1 (one) Master Research Scholarship, in the area of Data Science/Computer Science, under the FCT Research Grant Regulations (RBI) and the Research Grant Holder Statute (EBI). The grant will be funded by the research project "GhostDance – A methodology to analyze dance movement in interaction with virtual reality" with reference FCT:EXPL/ART-PER/1238/2021

The main objective is to apply Machine Learning techniques to interpret and catalog dance movements captured by Motion Capture. We intend to develop a system capable of recognizing and categorizing in real time the movement of performers using the Laban representation. We will make use of a state-of-the-art motion capture system to collect the movement data.

1. Type and number of grant(s) to be awarded: 1 Master's research grant with reference **COFAC/ULHT/CICANT/GHOST-2/2023**

2. Scientific field(s): Data Science/Computer Science

3. Funding Source: The funds related to the grant components are the research project "GhostDance – A methodology to analyse dance movement in interaction with virtual reality" with reference FCT:EXPL/ART-PER/1238/2021 and developed at the R&D Unit CICANT - Research Center for Applied Communication, Culture and New Technologies (5260).

4. Applicants: The Research Grant is intended for candidates with a Bachelor's degree registered in a Master's programme and who wish to develop research activities, leading to the award of a master's degree, within the scope of the scientific work developed at CICANT.

5. Eligibility of applicants: The following are eligible to apply to this call: National citizens or citizens of other European Union Member States; Citizens of third countries; Stateless persons; Citizens benefiting from political refugee status.

5.1 Candidate Admission Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Computer Science or similar.
- Attendance of a Master's degree in Data Science, Computer Science or related fields.
- Not have benefited from an academic or professional master's degree scholarship directly funded by FCT, regardless of its duration.
- Not be a holder of a PhD degree.
- To be permanently and habitually resident in Portugal, a requirement applicable to both Portuguese and foreign citizens.
- Proficient command of English.

5.2 Admissibility Requirements for Applications

It is essential, under penalty of non-admission to the Call, to attach the following documents to the application:

- Curriculum vitae of the candidate, indicating the e-mail address, and all scientific production (scientific articles, books, chapters, communications, etc.) must be accessible on the RESEARCH GATE, ORCID or Ciência VITAE platform, or in PDF format;
- Certificates of qualification of the academic degrees held, specifying, obligatorily, the final classification and, if possible, the classifications obtained in all the subjects taken. Alternatively, declaration of honor of the candidate ([link](#)) that he/she has completed the degrees required in the call for applications by the deadline;
- Letter of Motivation;
- Portfolio of scientific articles and publications;
- Technical portfolio, showreel in digital platform accessible but not listed and/or other formats demonstrating the candidate's path;
- Any other documents that candidates consider relevant to the assessment of their merit;
- Recognition of Foreign Degrees and Diplomas - In the case of academic degrees awarded by foreign higher education institutions, and in order to ensure the application of the principle of equal treatment to candidates holding foreign and national academic degrees, it is mandatory to recognize these degrees and convert the respective final classification to the Portuguese classification scale. The recognition of foreign academic degrees and diplomas as well as the conversion of the final classification to the Portuguese classification scale can be requested at any public higher education institution, or at the Directorate-General for Higher Education (DGES, only in the case of automatic recognition). In this regard, it is suggested to consult the DGES portal at the following address: <http://www.dges.gov.pt>.

- The documents proving the holding of academic degrees and diplomas, or the respective recognition when they have been awarded by foreign higher education institutions, may be waived at the initial application stage, being replaced by a declaration of honor by the candidate ([link](#)), with the verification of this condition occurring only at the interview stage and at the scholarship contracting stage. This declaration must attest to facts that occurred prior to the application.
In the event that the supporting documents cannot be provided, the candidate must be excluded from the procedure, and the candidate who immediately succeeds him/her on the provisional ranking list will assume his/her position.
- The application and all associated documents must be written in Portuguese or in English.

5.3 Preferred requirements:

- Be proficient, both orally and in writing, in Portuguese and English.

6. Applicable legislation and regulations:

Statute of the Research Fellow (EBI), approved by Law no. 40/2004 of August 18, in the current wording published by Decree-Law no. 123/2019 of August 28 Research Grants Regulation, no. 950/2019 of 16-12-2019, of the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P. in force. - in force.

7. Contracting entity:

COFAC - Cooperativa de Formação e Animação Cultural, C.R.L. with registered office at Av. Campo Grande 376, 1749-024 Lisboa, Portugal.

7.1 Unit hosting the research work and scientific guidance:

The work will be developed at CICANT - Research Center in Applied Communication, Culture and New Technologies (ref: 5260)/ Lusófona University of Humanities and Technologies, under the scientific guidance of Professor Rui Filipe Antunes, principal investigator.

8. Duration of the scholarship(s):

The duration of the fellowships is 8 months, renewable up to a maximum of 12 months.

8.1 Amount of the monthly maintenance allowance: The amount of the MMS corresponds to 930.98€/month, according to the table of values of the FCT, I.P. grants ([Tabela de subsídios mensais de manutenção do Regulamento de Bolsas de Investigação da FCT I.P.](#)). Payment is made between the 1st and 8th of each month, by transfer to the IBAN/NIB of the grantee indicated in the contractualization process.

8.2 Other benefits: Reimbursement of the Voluntary Social Insurance, corresponding to the 1st step of the contribution base (for scholarships with a duration of 6 months or more) and Personal Accident Insurance.

8.3 Exclusivity regime: The performance of duties as a fellow is carried out on an exclusive basis, under the terms provided for in Article 5 of the Research Fellow Statute and applicable research grant regulations.

9. Application deadline and form of submission of applications: The call is open between **September 11 and 23:59 (Lisbon time) on September 29, 2023**. Applications and supporting documents for the application provided for in this notice must be submitted by email to cicant@ulusofona.pt, with the subject line "**application for a master's scholarship - COFAC/ULHT/CICANT/GHOST-2/2023**". Each candidate may submit only one application, under penalty of cancellation of all applications submitted. The provision of false statements or the performance of acts of plagiarism by the candidates is grounds for cancellation of the application without prejudice to the adoption of other measures of a sanctioning nature.

10. Evaluation and selection criteria and procedures:

Applications deemed admissible will be scored on a scale of 0 to 100 on each of the following evaluation criteria:

- A. Technical skills and competences (weighting 40%):
- B. Professional experience (30% weight):
- C. Scientific merit and research orientation (20% weighting):
- D. Motivation and communication (10% weighting):

For the purposes of the decision on the award of scholarships, candidates will be ranked according to the weighted average of the score obtained in each of the three criteria, translated by the following formula:

$$\text{Merit Classification} = (40\% \times A) + (30\% \times B) + (20\% \times C) + (10\% \times D)$$

For tie-breaking purposes, the candidates will be ranked on the basis of the marks attributed to each of the evaluation criteria in the following order of precedence: criterion A, criterion B, criterion C, criterion D.

The Jury may decide to invite the three best classified candidates to an interview, involving a coding test, in which case the following evaluation sub-criteria shall apply:

- a. Interpersonal skills (30%)
- b. Demonstrated knowledge in the area of the competition (40%)
- c. Motivation (10%)
- d. Language Skills (20%)

The grading of the Interview will be obtained by applying the following formula:

$$\text{Interview} = a + b + c + d$$

In case the interview is held, the final classification of the Merit and Interview will be obtained by applying the following formula: following formula:

$$\text{Final Classification} = (\text{Merit} \times 0,7) + (\text{Interview} \times 0,3)$$

If the interview is not held, the final classification will correspond to 100% of the evaluation obtained in the Candidate Merit.

The jury may not award the scholarship if the quality of the candidates is inferior to the desired quality, establishing as a minimum score for awarding the scholarship the score of 75 points.

11. Composition of the Selection Board

President

Rui Filipe Antunes, Universidade Lusófona

Effective members

Cecília de Lima, Faculdade de Motricidade Humana, Universidade de Lisboa

Nuno Garcia, Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade de Lisboa

Substitute members

João Marques Carrilho, Universidade Lusófona

If the President of the Jury is prevented from attending, he will be replaced by the first effective member, and the substitute member will be appointed to replace the effective.

12. Dissemination of results:

The final results of the evaluation will be published through a list ordered by the grade obtained, posted in a visible and public place of the University, as well as on the institutional website of CICANT - <https://cicant.ulusofona.pt/> - and also by email to all candidates. The notification will be sent to the email address used/indicated by the candidates when submitting the application. The selected candidate must express in writing his/her intention to accept the scholarship. In case of non-acceptance, the scholarship will be awarded to the candidate in order of final ranking.

13. Complaint and appeal procedures:

If the result is unfavorable to the granting of the requested scholarship, the candidates have a period of 10 working days to give their opinion, if they wish, in a prior hearing to the interested parties, under the terms of articles 121 and 122 of the Administrative Procedure Code (DL nº 4/2015 of 7 January). A complaint may be lodged against the final decision, within 15 working days, addressed to the President of the Jury.

14. Requirements and mandatory documents for the Grant Award:

The grant is awarded through the signing of a contract between COFAC - Cooperativa de Formação e Animação Cultural. CRL, institutor of the Universidade Lusófona de Humanidades e Tecnologias, and the grant holder. The following documents must be sent, when the scholarship is granted, for contracting purposes Copy of civil, fiscal and, when applicable, social security identification document(s)

- Copy of civil, fiscal and, when applicable, social security identification document(s);
- Copy of the academic degree certificates of the academic degrees held;
- Presentation of the record of recognition of the foreign academic degrees and conversion of the respective final classifications to the portuguese classification scale, if applicable;
- Document proving the enrolment and/or registration in a Master's Programme;
- Motivation Letter.

The award of the grant is also dependent on: the fulfillment of the requirements set out in this Announcement; the result of the scientific evaluation; or the failure to submit any of the documents necessary to complete the grant contracting process.

14.1 Terms and Conditions for Renewal of the Fellowship

Without prejudice to the other causes provided for in the FCT scholarship regulations and in the Research Fellow Statute, the scholarship ends with the completion of the contracted work plan, as well as with the end of the period for which it was granted or renewed.

At the end of the scholarship, the fellow is required to submit a Final Report of the work carried out, according to the objectives and evaluation criteria defined with the scientific advisor, within 30 days after the end of the scholarship. The final report must be prepared according to the model to be made available by the host entity (CICANT).

15. Non-Discrimination Policy and Equal Access

Universidade Lusófona and CICANT promote a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, whereby no applicant may be privileged, benefited, prejudiced, or deprived of any right or exempted from any duty on the grounds of, namely, ancestry, age, gender, sexual orientation marital status, family situation, economic situation, education, origin or social condition, genetic heritage, reduced capacity to work, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs and trade union membership.