UNITA recruits an

IT Department Coordinator
European University « UNITA Universitas Montium »

Context:
UNITA brings together 12 comprehensive universities with different sizes and trajectories gathering 250.000 students and 21.000 staff. We are situated in rural, mountain, and cross-border regions across three European regions, in ecosystems sharing similar challenges and impacted by core-periphery dynamics. Together with our more than fifty associated partners and the newly established legal entity as full partner we will constitute a unique and powerful ecosystem.

Building on the achievements of the first phase we will bring our cooperation to the next level, contributing to the educational, scientific and cultural progress of our regions, fostering their sustainable development, strengthening the local innovation ecosystems and supporting their transition to a knowledge-based economy, whilst promoting European integration within and beyond them.

We intend to transform the way we cooperate, educate, do research, innovate, and reach out to society. Well within 10 years from now, our learners will be able to choose their personalised, multilingual and international study paths from a rich learning offer. Students, academic and administrative staff will benefit from seamless mobility opportunities across the alliance, including rural experiences. Our institutions will function as innovation incubators matching the ambitions of the European Innovation Agenda and the Skills Agenda.

More information about UNITA: http://univ-unita.eu/.

Placement: Timișoara, Romania
The person will be recruited by the UNITA GEIE, in the UNITA IT Department and will be located in Timișoara, Romania. The activities will be conducted within the scope of the UNITA European University.

1. MISSIONS
Task 3.4 of the UNITA Erasmus+ Project aims at joint actions to establish a user-friendly, interactive environment & information system that is accessible to students and staff, but also to lifelong learners and territorial actors.

A more specific aim of the task is to create a system that exchanges data in an easy-to-use manner across partners, with a focus on data interoperability. UNITA will use romance languages and English for courses, contents, and interfaces to be the more open and inclusive as possible. The task builds on the solid achievements of the pilot phase of UNITA and its Constellation projects Connect-UNITA, UNITA RECIPES for INTERNATIONALISATION, Re-UNITA, etc., i.e. an analysis of the requirements from all actions and also the already in-place proof of concept of UNITA inter-university digital campus.

The digital campus will fulfil a central support role for all tasks, as its inter-connected multi-sites (real and virtual) will be the first entry point and main location of interaction, study and work for all alliance actors. The task provides the infrastructure, transparency and digital tools for other tasks to operate and notably voting tools to increase the democratic participation of the communities, catalogues and cartographies to contribute to the personalised international learning paths and seamless mobility, from registration to certification support tools, research hubs cartography and Open data, catalogue of shared infrastructure and knowledge, connected classrooms among others. All the applications and services shall be developed and maintained through the UNITA IT Department.

The UNITA IT Department will be composed of three IT specialists: the IT department coordinator, an Support & Maintenance lead and one Software architect & Development lead.

The IT department coordinator will coordinate the team. Moreover, one IT engineer is recruited by each university of the UNITA alliance. Those IT engineers will oversee the interoperability of the IT local applications and databases with the UNITA digital tools when needed. They will also participate to the development of some applications, depending on their skills and competencies. The coordinator of the IT department will oversee the collective efforts of all IT personnel engaged in the technological advancements for UNITA.

The UNITA IT Department will aim to ensure the interoperability of data and applications offered jointly to academic communities in UNITA. The activities currently carried out by the already existing departments in the universities will not be carried out by the newly created department. The joint department will have the goal of designing, developing, deployment and maintaining a digital ecosystem that ensures the coherence of the applications and services offered jointly and the interoperability of the existing information systems in each university.
The department will cover the following areas of activity:
- Software development and support for the use of UNITA Virtual Campus (UVC) by all members of the academic community (students, academic staff, administrative staff) and other relevant stakeholders.
- System orchestration and administration
- Networking
- Security and compliance (including data protection);

The UNITA IT Department Coordinator will lead UNITA applications and services from conception to final delivery. He/She will be responsible for achieving optimal results, conforming to standards for quality, safety and sustainability and complying with defined scope, performance, costs, and schedule. He/she will Deploy agile practices where applicable.

2. ACTIVITIES:
Main activities:
- Provides leadership for the implementation and development of the architecture and applications;
- Maintains a holistic perspective of UNITA strategy, processes, information, security and ICT assets.
- Links the mission, strategy and business processes to the IT strategy.
- Ensures project choices are integrated consistently, efficiently and in a sustainable manner according to the alliance's digital standards.
- Commits the Department to the achievement of quality goals and encourages an environment of continuous improvement.
- Develops the architecture of UNITA Virtual Campus and the interconnections between universities, together with the Support & Maintenance lead and the Software architect & Development lead;
- Coordinates the overall management of the team (training, coordination, controlling, quality assurance, etc.).
- Ensures the alignment of the Information Systems strategy with UNITA strategy.
- Ensures a continuous dialogue with the stakeholders.
- Collects and analyzes the needs of UNITA and of each university in particular.
- Leads the development and support of the UVC and the interconnections between UNITA stakeholders.

Associated activities:
- Take part in internal meetings of T3.4;
- Take part in UNITA meetings, regarding the development of the virtual campus (in English);
- Get involved in the professional networks linked to UNITA;
- Promote periodic online meetings with the IT Directors of UNITA;

Specifities:
- Punctual travels in Italy, France, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland and Romania;
- Multiple contact persons, which can complexify the mission;
- Punctual availability out of office hours and on weekends.

3. COMPETENCIES
Skills :
- Provides IS strategic leadership to reach consensus and commitment from the management team of the alliance;
- Provides leadership for the creation of an information system strategy that meets the requirements of UNITA (e.g. distributed, mobility-based) and includes risks and opportunities;
- Validates new and emerging technologies, coupled with expert understanding of the business, to envision and articulate solutions for the future. Creates the organisation wide trend monitoring processes;
- Applies independent thinking and technology awareness to lead the integration of disparate concepts for the provision of unique solutions;
- Optimizes technical and cloud environment. Evaluates performance of systems and the problems/questions of users. Responsible for timely replacement of resources within the permitted budget;
- Provides strategic leadership to embed information security into the culture of the organisation;
- Provides strategic leadership to embed ICT quality (i.e. metrics and continuous improvement) into the culture of the organisation;
- Expertise in the field of recommendation systems, automatic learning algorithms and distributed systems;
- AI and Machine Learning appreciated;
- Back-end (mostly) and front-end technologies;
- Interoperability tools and methods;
- Data visualisation;
- Security, quality, maintenance and evolution standards;
- Good level of English (B2 minimum) and if possible, another romance language (French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Romanian);
- Write conception and specification documents;
- Develop web applications;
- Implement an agile approach;
- Write user documents and technical documents.

Soft skills :
- Organisation and planification ;
- Communication skills ;
- Resourcefulness and a sense of initiative;
- Team work in an intercultural team;
- Responsiveness, thoroughness and responsibility;
- Writing skills in English;
- Adaptation and flexibility.

Training and professional experience :
Initial training at engineer or master level, with an experience in app conception and development, in the field of Cloud, Distributed Systems and automatic learning algorithms. An experience in an international project and/or a particular interest for research are a bonus.

4. EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS
- Period of the contract: Contract should start as soon as possible, with a total duration of 24 months (possibly 36 months);
- Monthly gross salary: 45 000 gross salary per year (12 months), depending on experience and competencies
- Holidays: 2,16 days per month (26 annual days + 32 hours of annual leave)
- Working time: 8 hours/day
- Placement: Timișoara, Romania

5. RECRUITMENT PROCESS

To apply, send a resume and a cover letter via email to UNITA at UNITO <unita@unito.it> and UNITA at UVT <unita@e-uvt.ro> **before April 1st 2024**.

For any question related to the position, please contact us at same emails.