San Jose State University Research Foundation

Position: Senior Research Associate (MAS/DigIT)

DEPARTMENT: **Research will be done under the auspices of the Psychology Department at San José State University**

IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR: **Project Director**

POSTING DATE: **November 6, 2018**

CLOSING DATE: **Posted Until Filled**

SALARY: **Negotiable based on experience plus excellent benefits**
Full Time
Excellent Benefits

EXEMPT STATUS: **Exempt (Salary)**
Full Time
Benefited

GENERAL NATURE OF POSITION:

Do you want to help support NASA's missions, but don't want to go through astronaut training camp? Do you like making a difference in the world and want to help progress the vision of NASA? We work for the San Jose State University Research Foundation in a partnership with NASA through grant funding.

The Psychology Department at San Jose State University is involved in collaborative research with civil service scientists from the Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) Research group of the Human Systems Integration Division at the NASA Ames Research Center in Mountain View, CA. The research is centered on the development, design and testing of next-generation mission ground-systems for NASA's space explorations missions.

We seek a Senior Research Associate who will design, manage, and deploy research and modeling tools using established HCI design principles including prototype design and development support under the Exploration Systems Directorate (ESD) program milestones. This person will also be responsible for day-to-day management of software project documentation, project management, and project negotiation with members of the NASA engineering disciplines across Agency centers.

 Our work environment is very open, collaborative and welcoming; we are a diverse and tight-knit team. We believe that fostering a comfortable workplace for everyone is important! Our team values a healthy approach to our work, from providing adjustable desks to maintaining a balanced work-life schedule. You will contribute to our wide diversity of skills and incorporate new ideas into our environment

ESSENTIAL DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

1) Collaborate on the day-to-day software development effort and maintenance operations of the production instances of the Mission Assurance Systems and Dig-IT (Data Integration Information Technology). This includes describing desired functionality, assessing bugs, and completing tasks with an eye for keeping large/complex deliverables scalable and on schedule.
2) Conduct field research including contextual inquiry, interviews, in situ observation, need validation, usability testing, task analysis, and cognitive modeling (CogTool) to identify and communicate user, task, and organizational requirements.
3) Run usability tests including creating interactive prototypes, analyzing data, and making updates to designs.
4) Prepare presentations of research findings and demonstrations of technical solutions to NASA program management.
5) Translate user research findings into designs; review designs with stakeholders; work with the development and QA team to describe design specification; create design specification documents
6) Participate in a rigorous and iterative peer design review process in order to generate compelling prototypes grounded in HCI methods.
7) Contribute to the deployment of timely and high-quality production web applications.
8) Support the quality assurance of production applications by working with a team of testers.
9) Contribute to the design of the evolving component library that can be utilized in making more consistent and efficient designs for the re-architecture effort.

INTERPERSONAL CONTACTS:

1) Reports to the Project Director.
2) Interacts with NASA Ames civil service and Foundation research staff, including student assistants, on a daily basis.

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QUALIFICATIONS:
1) **Education and Experience**
   a) Master's degree in Computer Science, Psychology, Human Computer Interaction or related discipline is required. Three years of equivalent experience may be substituted in lieu of education.
   b) Minimum 3 years' experience in software development, usability testing, human computer interaction, and other relevant skills preferred.

2) **Knowledge, Skills, Abilities required**
   a) Excellent human-computer interface research, design and evaluation skills.
   b) Working knowledge of cognitive psychology and human factors standards.
   c) Knowledge of cognitive modeling procedures.
   d) Ability to lead user debriefing.
   e) Ability to organize and analyze data.
   f) Strong verbal and written communication skills.
   g) Ability to integrate a culturally- and organizationally-diverse research and development team.
   h) Ability to work both as a member of a team and independently, as required

3) **Physical Requirements**.
   a) Must be willing to travel domestically and internationally.
   b) Located at the NASA Ames Research Center. Therefore, the employee must meet security qualifications for entrance to the Center.
   c) Employee will be a US citizen or a Permanent Resident.

4) **Complexity of Duties**
   a) Exercises independent judgment in the management and completion of diverse and complex set of tasks.

5) **Benefits**
   The comprehensive benefit package includes:
   a) Ten Health Insurance Plans to choose from
   b) Free dental and vision for employee and family
   c) Paid Federal and State Holidays
   d) Retirement Plan: 403 (b) employee contribution plan component and a 403 (b) employee contribution
   e) Vacation and separate sick plans
   f) Employee Discounts
   g) Paid Training and Conferences
   h) Increases based on merit (performance)

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SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES:

None, though may be called upon for advice and direction by others.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE
To apply for this position, an applicant must submit a formal application for employment, as well as a resume and a cover letter. The applicant may do this via e-mail or by regular mail. The formal employment application is located at
employment application is located at
http://www.sjsu.edu/researchfoundation/open/Employment%20Application%20Form_new.pdf

It may also be obtained from the Research Foundation through its web site at
http://www.sjsu.edu/researchfoundation/open/index.html.

An applicant may also apply in person by visiting the Research Foundation, located at 210 North 4th Street, 4th Floor, San Jose, CA (corner of St. James and North 4th Streets). Please address your formal application, your resume and your letter of interest directly to:

San Jose State University Research Foundation
Attn: HR/Job Code **NASA SRA AD**
210 North 4th Street
San Jose, CA 95112
E-mail: foundation-jobs@sjsu.edu

The Research Foundation provides excellent benefits package to benefited employees. Please visit http://www.sjsu.edu/researchfoundation/humanresources/healthbenefits/index.html to get more details.

Research Foundation employment is separate and distinct from San Jose State University or State of California employment. Research Foundation employees are not employees of either SJSU or of the state of California.

The San Jose State University Research Foundation (SJSURF) is a non-profit auxiliary of San Jose State University. SJSURF is totally self supported. The majority of the organization's funding comes from the federal government, and other public and private entities. With annual revenues totaling over $65 million, programs managed through SJSURF cover a rich diversity of applied research, public services, and educational related activities.

SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH FOUNDATION is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, gender, religion, marital status, registered domestic partner status, age, national origin, ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition, sex, genetic information, sexual orientation, military and veteran status or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, state, or local laws. It also prohibits unlawful discrimination based on the perception that anyone has any of those characteristics, or is associated with a person who has or is perceived as having any of those characteristics.

The SJSURF has implemented California State University Executive Order 1083 (http://www.calstate.edu/eo/EO-1083.pdf). By policy, all SJSURF employees are mandated reporters for suspected child abuse or neglect and are expected to undergo formal training in accordance with the directives of the Executive Order.

The SJSURF has also implemented California State University Policy Memorandum HR 2015 – 08 (http://www.calstate.edu/HRAdm/pdf2015/HR2015-08.pdf).

A background check (including a criminal records check) must be completed satisfactorily before any candidate can be offered a position with the SJSURF. Failure to satisfactorily complete the background check may affect the application status of applicants or continued employment of current SJSURF employees who apply for the position.

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