

ACENET RESEARCH CONSULTANT IN HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

ACENET seeks a Research Consultant specializing in Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) at St. Francis Xavier University (StFX) in Antigonish, NS.

This is a research support position, reporting to ACENET's Chief Technology Officer. It is a full-time (37.5 hours/week) position with no end date, but subject to external funding. Salary is commensurate with experience.

This position requires a motivated self-starter and relationship-builder who will work with social scientists and humanists in Atlantic Canada and nationally to provide training, computing expertise, resource navigation, and connections with computing subject matter experts to address their research computing needs.

This position requires extensive contact with faculty, staff, students, and external stakeholders. It works closely with other Research Consultants and Systems Administrators at ACENET. It also works closely with the Canada Research Chair in Digital Humanities and New Media at StFX to develop the digital HSS training and support network in Atlantic Canada. This position plays a leadership role with the Humanities & Social Sciences national team, coordinated with the Digital Research Alliance of Canada (the Alliance), to design and execute programs focused on equitable and consistent support to the HSS community nationally.

Examples of Duties

- Provide resource facilitation, expertise, and support to arts, social science and humanities researchers.
- Develop and deliver training, workshops, seminars and information sessions on advanced computing services, technologies, approaches, and methodologies relevant to the HSS community.
- Work within ACENET's help desk system to ensure HSS user support issues are addressed in a timely manner.
- Lead the assessment of community needs using a structured process (gathering, analyzing, documenting, and managing changes) to ensure ACENET is meeting current needs and is preparing for future needs.
- Stay apprised of research methods trending within the HSS community.
- Support the development of research software, following appropriate programming and development methodologies and best practices.
- Assess client Research Data Management (RDM) requirements and connect to the RDM services and resources available through the Alliance and its partners.

- Ensure visibility and awareness of cybersecurity and sensitive data considerations in services supporting the humanities and social sciences research community.
- Write and maintain documentation in accordance with prescribed standards.
- Build and maintain positive working relationships, collaborating with others to achieve client objectives.
- Communicate with stakeholders of varying technical ability and subject matter expertise.
- Provide technical expertise, training and consultation to researchers and staff.
- Perform other related duties as required.

Background and Skills

The ideal candidate will have a graduate degree in an HSS discipline with a strong technical proficiency applying computing and other digital tools. Consideration will be given to graduate degrees in other disciplines when accompanied by demonstrated enthusiasm and experience working within the HSS community.

The incumbent must have:

- Demonstrated technical proficiency applying digital solutions;
- Excellent written and verbal English communication skills and ability to facilitate discussions;
- Ability to plan and carry out multiple tasks and projects, prioritize and organize effectively, work under pressure and meet established timelines;
- Ability to work both independently and in a team environment with minimal supervision;
- Demonstrated ability to learn technical skills on short notice to either support researchers directly or train them to support themselves;
- A strong client-focused work ethic; and
- Experience in an academic research environment.

The following skills or experience will be considered assets:

- Deep familiarity with the research practices of at least one HSS discipline and strong familiarity with others;
- Expert knowledge of data management, storage, backup and recovery;
- Experience with HPC and advanced research computing;
- Experience preparing and delivering tutorials, workshops, lectures and seminars;
- Ability to work with Linux operating systems;
- Experience in database design (relational or graph), OCR, XML, XHTML, XSLT, xQuery, SPARQL, and/or SQL;
- Broad knowledge and demonstrated experience in several programming languages (such as Python, R, Ruby, Javascript, etc.) and version control;
- Experience using cloud technologies;
- Bilingualism in French

- Indigenous language competencies;
- Technical writing skills or grant writing experience; and

We hope to attract a candidate with a can-do attitude and excellent relationship building capabilities that is enthusiastic to invest time and effort into their professional training and skill development.

About ACENET

ACENET is a consortium of universities in Atlantic Canada providing researchers with Digital Research Infrastructure (DRI) resources, tools, software, training, and support. We help our clients use DRI as a means of accelerating discovery and innovation, keeping Atlantic Canada at the forefront of academic research.

ACENET is a partner of the Digital Research Alliance of Canada, the organization responsible for coordinating infrastructure and activities required for advanced research computing (ARC), research data management (RDM) and research software (RS) in Canada.

Applying

To express interest in this role, please direct your CV and cover letter in confidence to:

Human Resources
St. Francis Xavier University
Email: careers@stfx.ca

We will begin examining applications on **April 18, 2022**, and continue until the position is filled.

We thank all those submitting applications, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply, however Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. ACENET and StFX are committed to employment equity and diversity, and encourage applications from visible minority group members, women, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, and people of any sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.