Saarland University is a campus-based university with a strong international focus and a research-oriented profile. Numerous research institutes on campus and the systematic promotion of collaborative projects make Saarland University an ideal environment for innovation and technology transfer.

The German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI) is the world's largest independent research institute in the field of artificial intelligence and is internationally recognized as a center of excellence for applied basic research. More information about the DFKI can be found at http://www.dfki.de/.

The Department of Philosophy at Saarland University seeks to hire a Professor (W3) in Ethics of Digitalization (m/f/x, Reference no.: W2428)

As part of a long-standing collaboration agreement, this professorship position is linked to the leadership of a new research department at the DFKI in Saarbrücken in the same area. At the university, the professorship will complement the existing expertise of colleagues at the Department of Philosophy in the field of ethics of digitalization and establish a strong bridge to the DFKI and the Department of Computer Science. We expect co-operation with the Department of Computer Science.

We are looking for a highly motivated and outstanding researcher in the area of Ethics of Digitalization with extensive knowledge in the relevant fields of practical philosophy, computer science, and AI. A demonstrated ability to attract external funding for research projects is highly desired as research at the DFKI is almost exclusively third-party funded. The successful candidate is expected to actively and significantly contribute to departmental research and to teach at the M.Sc./M.A., B.Sc./B.A., and PhD level. The teaching language is English and German. We expect that the successful candidate has, or is willing to acquire within an appropriate period, sufficient proficiency to teach in both languages. It would also be deeply appreciated if the future professor would also participate in teaching at the Department of Computer Science (e.g., the award-winning “Ethics for Nerds” course). The professor will also, as one of his/her main duties, establish and lead a research group of the DFKI with research themes at the intersection of computer science and philosophy that extends the university research group towards interdisciplinary and application-oriented research in the area of ethics of AI.

What we offer:

Professors (W3) have faculty status at Saarland University, including the right to supervise Bachelor’s, Master’s, and PhD students. The successful candidate will focus on carrying out world-class research, will lead his/her own research group, and will undertake teaching and supervision responsibilities. The position offers excellent working conditions in a lively and international scientific community on campus and across the different DFKI sites and research departments. DFKI and Saarland University are part of the widely known Saarland Informatics Campus, that also includes the two Max-Planck Institutes for Informatics as well as Software Systems, plus the Helmholtz Center for Cyber Security, CISPA. The Department of Philosophy is devoted to Analytic Philosophy and well connected to other university departments, especially to the Department of Computer Science, and to other philosophy departments across Germany and Europe. Together, the Saarland campus provides an interdisciplinary, dynamic, and stimulating research environment.

Qualifications:

The appointment will be made in accordance with the general provisions of German public sector employment law. Applicants will have a PhD or doctorate in an appropriate area/subject (i.e., related to Ethics of Digitalization) and will have demonstrated an excellent track record of independent academic research (e.g., as a junior or assistant professor, or by having completed an advanced, post-doctoral research degree (habilitation) or equivalent academic activity at a university or research institution) in that area/subject. They will typically have completed a period of postdoctoral research and have teaching and supervision experience at the university level. They must have demonstrated outstanding research capabilities and have the potential to successfully lead and fund their own research group.

Your Application:

Applications should be submitted online at www.uni-saarland.de/berufungen. No additional paper copy is required. The application must contain:

- a cover letter and curriculum vitae (including phone number and email address),
- a full list of publications,
- a full list of third-party funding (stating own share, if multiple grant holders)
- your proposed research plan (2-5 pages),
- a teaching statement (1 page),
- copies of your degree certificates,
- full-text copies of your 5 most important publications,
- a list of 3 academic references (including email addresses), at least one of whom must be a person who is outside the group of your current or former supervisors or colleagues.
- If available: Proof of equivalence of the foreign university degree from the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB; does not apply to university degrees in Germany). If the proof has not yet been requested at the time of application, it must be submitted later upon request.

Applications must be received no later than 14 March 2024.

Please include the job reference number W2428 when you apply. Selected candidates will be interviewed. Please contact dietrich.balkow@uni-saarland.de if you have any questions.

Saarland University regards internationalization as an institution-wide process spanning all aspects of university life and it therefore encourages applications that align with its internationalization strategy. Members of the university's professional staff are therefore expected to engage in activities that promote and foster further internationalization. Special support will be provided for projects that continue with or expand collaborative interactions within existing international cooperation networks.

Saarland University is an equal opportunity employer. In accordance with its affirmative action policy, Saarland University regards internationalization as an institution-wide process spanning all aspects of university life and it therefore encourages applications that align with its internationalization strategy. Members of the university's professional staff are therefore expected to engage in activities that promote and foster further internationalization. Special support will be provided for projects that continue with or expand collaborative interactions within existing international cooperation networks.

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