Gradient Institute Summer Scholar - 2020-2021

A competitive scholarship is being offered for this program. Get paid to strengthen your knowledge and learn new skills!

This is our very first year recruiting for summer scholars. Positions are being offered in both Sydney and Canberra. In Canberra, we work out of the world-leading Australian National University. In Sydney, we have an office on the campus of The University of Sydney, recently assessed as being one of the top global universities making a significant impact on sustainable development.

The scholarship will run for 10-12 weeks over late November 2020 and late February 2021, during which you need to be available to work full-time hours (35 hours per week).

You’ll be working with our team of world-class researchers and practitioners who are actively helping people in the business and scientific communities understand what constitutes ethical machine learning and AI, and how to translate it into practice.

**As a research scholar at Gradient Institute, you’ll**
- Gain research experience working on problems at the frontier of Artificial Intelligence;
- Learn technical and research skills from experienced AI researchers and practitioners;
- Work on a concrete research project translating ethical principles and ideals into the design and implementation of an AI system;
- Gain experience of working for a not-for-profit organisation and registered charity;
- Spend the summer working on a challenging and meaningful research project under the supervision of an experienced team of AI researchers and practitioners.

**Examples of research questions that we are currently working on:**
- **Beyond machine learning and towards causal inference.** Traditional AI and machine learning are based on correlations, not causation. How can we ensure that the actions taken by an AI system cause the desired outcomes?
- **Algorithmic fairness.** How can we obtain efficient but also equitable results when using an AI system to make consequential decisions about people?
- **Automated decision making and the law.** How can we ensure that decisions made by machines comply with legal requirements? Will the law have to change to adapt to automated decision making?

**About us**
Gradient Institute is a small not-for-profit research institute and registered charity progressing the research, design, development, and adoption of ethical artificial intelligence systems. The staff are computer scientists and engineers working on the technical aspects of ensuring AI
systems operate ethically. We translate our Ethical AI research into practice by working with some of Australia’s largest corporations, top universities, and government agencies.

**Requirements and eligibility**

Application is open to students who:

- Behave in accordance with high ethical standards;
- Are currently enrolled in a Bachelor’s degree in a quantitative subject such as engineering, computer science, maths, physics or a related subject;
- Have completed at least two years of their degree by the end of 2020;
- Are Australian citizens, Australian Permanent Residents or NZ citizens;
- Have an excellent academic track record;
- Have a genuine passion for problem-solving and for making the world a better place;
- Have coding experience;
- Enjoy working as part of a team.

At Gradient Institute we believe that diverse people, perspectives and experiences are vital to achieving our mission. We work hard to ensure our team members have a positive and fulfilling work-life that enables them to flourish and be themselves.

**How to apply**

Please email us your application by **15th August 2020**, consisting of:

- a CV which includes the names of 2 referees,
- a cover letter, explain the reasons you are applying and what you’re looking to get out of enrolling in this summer scholarship program; and,
- your academic transcripts.

Applicants shortlisted for an interview will be contacted by 18th September 2020.

To apply or ask any questions, send an email to hr@gradientinstitute.org

We look forward to hearing from you!