RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY: 6DoS Network Science Internship

Course Credit:
Research Practicum registration #: 389 (COMM_ST) or
Independent Study registration #: 399-0 (IEMS)
Duration:
Spring Quarter, 2017 (possibly extended to subsequent quarters)
Location:
SONIC Lab, Frances Searle Building 1-459
2240 Campus Dr.
Evanston, IL 60201

Organization Overview:
The Science of Networks in Communities (SONIC) research group advances social network theory and methodology through the development of cutting-edge techniques to understand and enable networks in diverse communities. For more information, please visit http://sonic.northwestern.edu/about.

Internship Description:
The 6DoS Network Science Intern will work closely with a research team that is using data from Project RED Relay (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zS2CVx1Q-GA) to investigate how network cognition is built and used in the context of the NASA Mars Mission. 6DoS is a web application based on the setup of Milgram's "six degrees of separation" experiment. 6DoS captures information on how individuals find a relatively short path to a random target in their network and how accurately individuals use their contacts. Using data including the information, the intern will gain an opportunity to learn about the quantitative research process, and statistical analysis while examining a variety of research questions regarding network search and perception. In particular, the intern will be actively involved in the preparation and analyses of data, review of journal articles on the topics of network search and network perception, and will work toward co-authoring a paper for an academic conference or journal.

Required Qualifications:
This position is open to current undergraduates enrolled in an accredited degree-seeking program at Northwestern, except for those who hold Chinese citizenship due to the contract with NASA. Candidates must be able to demonstrate close attention to detail, proficient writing/communication skills, analytic thinking, emphasis on deadlines, and the ability to collaborate on evolving projects.

Preferred Qualifications:
Ideal candidates will have a strong interest in research on social network analysis and be interested in pursuing graduate school. Candidates who previously took IEMS 341/ COMM ST 395 Social Network Analysis by Professor Noshir Contractor or plan on taking it in the 2017 Spring Quarter will be ideal. Prior experience with research, independent projects, knowledge of statistical methods, and the R programming language is highly preferred.

Application Instructions:
Please send a resume and brief cover letter describing your interest in the position to Kyosuke Tanaka (kyosuke@u.northwestern.edu) in time for the 2017 Spring Quarter registration on March 31st, 2017.