Collaborative mapping and geovisualisation of spatio-historical data sets

*The MAP research unit offers a post-doctoral position for a period of **12 months** starting on **June 1st 2016**. The position profile is related to the field of geovisualisation, but in an application to spatio-historical data sets, and in the context of a citizen science exploratory project.*

Context

The MAP unit, funded by CNRS (French National Centre for Scientific Research) and by the French Ministry for Culture, conducts interdisciplinary research activities focusing on the integration of computer science methodologies, formalisms and tools to applications fields like heritage architecture, history and archaeology, spatio-temporal dynamics. (**www.map.cnrs.fr**).

The team is in charge of an exploratory research programme entitled *Territographie* (**www.map.cnrs.fr/territographie**), a programme the aim of which is to weigh the potential impact of the *citizen science* approach in the study of the so-called minor heritage (i.e. collections encompassing tools for agriculture, old occupations, unlisted edifices, etc.).

The team wishes to develop and test a customizable collaborative mapping solution, intended for use in collecting information as well as in browsing/selecting information.

Objective

The postdoctoral fellow will be asked to contribute to the design and implementation of an ad-hoc geovisualisation solution combining close-to-standard cartographic services and specific modules dedicated to the analysis of spatio-historical data sets, i.e. to data sets that introduce specific methodological and technological bottlenecks (ill-defined data for instance).

The platform should enforce the following requirements:

(a) Collaborative data collecting allowing alternative levels of spatial definition;

(b) Customizable information search services;

(c) A graphic semiology adapted to the specificity of the underlying data sets (ill-defined or contradictory data both spatially and temporally) ;

(d) Discovery and visualisation of spatial or temporal patterns across the collections (cluster identification, cross-referencing, alternative belonging to spatial ensembles, patterns of use over time, etc.) ;

(e) Customization of the cartographic base, of the visual display of the collections' items, of the dynamic cartography components.

Skills required

The postdoctoral fellow needs to have completed a PhD cursus, and is asked to have robust skills in geomatics and/or geovisualisation, modelling of spatio-temporal data, and web

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development. Additional competences in the humanities (in particular in historical sciences), or in data and information visualisation are welcome, as well as a significant experience of the basic technological components or computer languages used in the project (RDBMS MySQL, Php/Javascript/SVG/HTML).

Conditions

The position is open as of June 1st 2016 for a period of 12 months. The remuneration is 30.000€ (gross) per year. The position is based in Marseilles, in the CNRS campus (**www.provence-corse.cnrs.fr**).
A good knowledge of French would be an advantage, but is not mandatory.

How to apply

Contact : jean-yves.blaise at map.cnrs.fr

Please send by email:

- a CV,
- a cover,
- arguments and references demonstrating the relevance of the candidate's expertise with regards to the tasks listed.

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