Job Posting

Position Title: Visualization Coordinator, WestGrid
Reports To: Chief Technology Officer, WestGrid
Job Status: Full-time for 1 year with possibility for extension
Location: One of the WestGrid Institutions located in Victoria, Vancouver, Kelowna, Calgary, Edmonton, Saskatoon or Winnipeg
Website: www.westgrid.ca

WestGrid is one of four regional HPC consortia that operate and support Compute Canada’s national platform of supercomputing resources, which brings together computer and data facilities, computational expertise, and hundreds of academic researchers to tackle some of Canada’s biggest research challenges. Compute Canada serves a user community across the country in disciplines ranging from the sciences and engineering to arts and humanities. The partner institutions and resource centres that comprise the national platform are hubs of interdisciplinary computational research. Together, these distributed computing facilities work collaboratively to provide the expertise and resources necessary to give Canada’s researchers and innovators access to world-class technologies.

As one of Compute Canada’s largest regional divisions, WestGrid encompasses 15 partner institutions across British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Its user community is supported by a distributed and cohesive team of technical staff and system architects.

Job Summary

The Visualization Coordinator is responsible for the visualization platform across all WestGrid partner institutions. This includes creating a visualization plan for WestGrid and executing the implementation of the plan across the partner institutions. This position reports to the WestGrid Chief Technology Officer (CTO). The individual will work closely with the Executive Committee, Executive Director (ED) and institutional operational staff. The Visualization Coordinator acts as the liaison with WestGrid Partner Institutions in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba on all matters with respect to visualization.

Functions & Responsibilities

The Visualization Coordinator’s responsibilities include (but are not limited to):

- Developing and implementing a plan for visualization for WestGrid. The plan must fit within the broader Compute Canada objectives and the successful candidate would most likely...
play a leadership role in terms of visualization nationally. The visualization plan would include a strategy for support, training, software deployment and plan for future infrastructure acquisition.

- Providing training and outreach on visualization to the WestGrid community. This includes developing training material, giving training and outreach sessions and training other staff members to provide seminars.
- Coordinating and informing internal WestGrid groups on visualization issues including the Executive Committee, Technical Site Leads, Analysts and support teams.
- Actively Participating on the Compute Canada TECC Visualization Working Group.
- Suggesting and implementing improvements to increase the overall efficiency and effectiveness of WestGrid visualization operations and technology.
- Providing consulting support as appropriate to ensure the WestGrid community of researchers obtains optimal value from the visualization tools provided.
- Developing an effective plan for visualization hardware and software refresh. Managing capital purchases and overseeing the deployment of the visualization infrastructure.
- Supporting researchers in their visualization needs including responding to requests by email, through the ticketing system and in person as required.

Requirements

The successful candidate will have the following education, skills and abilities:

- Academic background (graduate degree preferred) in a discipline utilizing visualization.
- Experience supporting visualization in a research setting and translating user needs into technology services.
- Experience working with Paraview and other visualization tools.
- Experience working with scientific, medical, geospatial, social sciences, or humanities data.
- Ability to work effectively with large datasets.
- Maintains a current awareness of emerging trends in visualization.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively with colleagues and users in the provision of visualization services.
- Outstanding written and oral communication skills and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work creatively, collaboratively, and effectively both as a team member and independently and to promote teamwork among colleagues.
- Evidence of ability for ongoing professional development and contribution.

The following qualifications are not required but would be an asset:

- Ability to extract and work with data from a variety of sources such as XML, relational databases, APIs, and web services.
- Experience with one or more of the following programming languages: Python, R, matlab, C, C++.
- Experience working with modular visualization applications such as Avizo, matlab, R and VisIT.
• Experience with domain specific visualization packages such as VMD/Pymol or Ensight/ansys/tecplot (CFD).
• Familiarity with interactive gesture and touch technologies.

How to Apply

Candidates interested in applying for the role, should send their expression of interest and resume to hr@westgrid.ca quoting the name of the position. We thank all applicants, however, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.