Post Doctoral Position — Information Visualization for Public Engagement

The Interactions Lab in the Department of Computer Science in the Faculty of Science at the University of Calgary is accepting applications for a Postdoctoral Fellow in Information Visualization for Public Engagement with Open Energy and Environmental Data.

Job Description:
The Energy Visualization Research Project (led by Drs. Wesley Willett and Sheelagh Carpendale and housed in the Interactions Lab) is looking for a Post Doctoral Fellow with expertise in participatory action research, community-based research, qualitative analysis, and/or environmental impact assessment. The project is an open data initiative that is focused on developing advanced, interactive data visualizations that will help make Canada’s energy data publicly accessible, transparent and understandable.

The successful candidate will be deeply involved in the energy visualization research group, working closely with domain experts, stakeholders, and members of the public to better understand public information needs related to environmental and energy policy. The successful candidate’s work will include participating in various outreach activities – including designing and running workshops and providing formal and informal demonstrations to appropriate stakeholders. The candidate will also work closely with designers and information visualization researchers on the team to translate their insights into new visual representations, and communicate those designs to developers, policymakers, and members of the public. The candidate will also be involved in mentoring undergraduate and masters students working on the project.

The successful candidate’s work will examine how novel interactive visualizations and interaction techniques can make open environmental and energy data more accessible to the public. This effort will lead to new visualizations that will be deployed publicly by the Canadian government, as well as opportunities to publish research results at relevant academic venues.

Qualifications:
PhD or equivalent degree with a strong focus on participatory and qualitative research methods. Expertise in computer science, informatics, experience working with indigenous groups, and / or design (and information visualization design in particular) is a plus. Experience designing and conducting both qualitative and quantitative studies is essential. We are interested in candidates with an ability to bridge the gap between scientific endeavors and real-world applications, producing results with high external validity.

Application details:
Please apply by email to Claudia Maurer, claudia.maurer@ucalgary.ca
Please send your CV, a short cover letter and the names of two people who can serve as references.
Sheelagh Carpendale, http://innovis.cpsc.ucalgary.ca/
Wesley Willett, http://dataexperience.cpsc.ucalgary.ca/