Role: NextAI - AI Scientist in Residence

Duration: February - September 2018

NextAI joins Next 36 and Next Founders as the third NEXT Canada program for high potential entrepreneurs and innovators. They will select high potential individuals and teams from around the world who are looking to launch AI-enabled businesses. NextAI will provide seed capital, expert advice, and the latest AI tools that program participants will need to launch AI solutions in growing technology markets around the world.

NextAI runs annually from late January to September, recruiting up to 20 teams from post doctorate, graduate and undergraduate programs, as well as industry professionals. NextAI launched with founding corporate partners that include BDC Capital, Magna, RBC and Scotiabank. Participants will have access to tools, platforms and experts from tech giants including IBM, NVIDIA, Google, Microsoft and more.

NextAI offers a unique combination of resources to program participants, including:

- Funding. Up to $200K per venture. 50K upon commencement of program in February 2018.
- Founder Development. In-depth business and technical education taught by award-winning global faculty and subject matter experts. A curriculum focused on AI technologies and business foundation skills.
- Access to Leading AI Technologies and Tools. Unique access to platforms and people at tech giants including IBM, NVIDIA, Google, Amazon and more.
- Work with Top Research Scientists and Corporate Mentors. Insight into major corporate challenges and access to unique data sets and domain expertise.
- Office Space in an AI-focused Hub. Cutting edge workspace in downtown Toronto, surrounded by a critical mass of AI innovators, service providers and investors.

NextAI aims to hire up to three AI Scientists in Residence, who will provide scientific and technical support to teams working on a wide variety of projects, and employing a number of tools and platforms. As an AI Scientist in Residence, you will:

- Provide advice and configuration support with respect to software and hardware technologies, tools, and platforms (e.g. cloud-based AI services, open source software frameworks)

- Provide R&D and software development services
- Attend lectures in AI/Machine Learning with the technical stream and support learning through consultation and review of material

The position can be thought of as somewhere between a Consultant and a Teaching Assistant; though it is more flexible than a consultant and more regimented (and more hours) than a standard TAship. AI Scientists in Residence are expected to provide up to 200 hours of services across the duration of the program (February to September 2018). AI Scientists in Residence will be paired with approximately 3-5 teams based on experience and mutual interest. Hours will be reported weekly and paid at the rate of $75/hour CAD.

While the position is flexible with respect to working hours, AI Scientists in Residence must be available full time between Feb 20 - 23 (reading week for most Universities) to attend a series of intensive lectures with the NextAI teams. AI Scientists in Residence are also expected to be responsive to their assigned teams (i.e. to generally follow up within 24 hours of an inquiry).

Ideal candidates will be pursuing or have recently graduated from a Master's or PhD in Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Mathematics, Statistics, or in a related area, with specialization in an area of Artificial Intelligence. Technical competency will be evidenced by a strong publication record in conferences and journals, contributions to open source software development, or technical blogging. Experience with machine learning frameworks, e.g. TensorFlow, Caffe, Theano, Torch, mxnet, and Cloud Platforms, e.g. Microsoft Azure, IBM Watson Analytics, Amazon Web Services is an asset.

Candidates must have excellent communication skills (experience as a Lecturer or Teaching Assistant is an asset) and the ability to work both independently and as part of a team.

The position is open to Canadian and foreign candidates, however, Candidates must be based in the GTA during the duration of the program to meet with teams on a regular basis. To apply, please send the following documents in a single pdf-file by email to Dr. Graham Taylor, Academic Director, NextAI: gwtaylor@gmail.com

1. Your Curriculum Vitae
2. A brief statement of relevant experience and interest in the program (one page maximum)
3. Unofficial transcripts for previous degrees if available
4. Names of minimum two referees who are able to comment on your qualifications. We will contact references of short-listed candidates only.

Application review will begin on January 2, 2018 and will continue until the positions are filled. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.