Post-Doc Opening in the area of Usable Privacy and ML/NLP
School of Computer Science and CyLab, Carnegie Mellon University

November 2017

Carnegie Mellon University has a post-doctoral opening to work on the Usable Privacy Policy Project (https://usableprivacy.org). This is a large interdisciplinary project aimed at helping people understand key elements of privacy policies. The project includes work on natural language processing and machine learning techniques to automatically extract statements from the text of privacy policies. It also involves the research of new user interfaces to selectively and effectively convey key elements of privacy policies to end users. This is an NSF Frontier project funded under the Secure and Trustworthy Computing (SaTC) program. It is affiliated with the School of Computer Science and the CyLab Security and Privacy Institute at CMU. The CMU PIs on this project are Profs. Norman Sadeh (lead PI), Alessandro Acquisti, Travis Breaux, and Lorrie Cranor.

The successful candidate will have a PhD in computer science or a related area and have a background in either machine learning and natural language processing or in user modeling and user-centered design – or both. Preference will be given to candidates who have done research in usable privacy and security. Prior exposure to good software engineering practices and some web application development would each also be a plus.

Candidates are expected to be capable of working under limited supervision, be well organized and have strong communication skills. They are also expected to have experience collaborating with others in the context of large-scale research projects. Actual work is expected to involve a mix of conceptual design, prototyping, and empirical evaluations (including human subject experiments). The successful candidate is expected to publish papers in top-tier conferences and journals along with other faculty and students.

Initial appointments will be for one year with option of renewal for an additional one or two years. The start date is negotiable with a preference for people who can start by May 2018 or earlier. Carnegie Mellon offers competitive salaries and benefits. To be considered for this position, interested candidates should forward their resume along with the names of 3 references to:

Ms. Linda Moreci
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For more information about the project, see www.usableprivacy.org and explore.usableprivacy.org
See also the NSF press release announcing the selection of our project.