Several Openings for MSc and PhD Students with Full Scholarships

The INRS-UQO Unité Mixte de Recherche (UMR) on Cybersecurity was recently created to advance the state-of-the-art in cybersecurity research not only in the Outaouais region, but across Québec and Canada. The Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS) brings together several world-renowned telecommunications experts specializing in the development of digital technologies, human factors analysis, and artificial intelligence, and the Université du Québec en Outaouais (UQO) brings decades of cybersecurity training and research, including in related disciplines such as cyberpsychology. Within the INRS-UQO UMR, cybersecurity is approached from an interdisciplinary perspective, centered on digital systems and software, but also giving importance to human aspects and emerging issues linked to artificial intelligence (AI). The UMR aims to develop the best cybersecurity practices for a constantly growing digital society and is conducting research in domains, including (but not limited to):

- Detection of fake news, misinformation, and deepfakes
- AI-assisted training of cybersecurity personnel
- AI agents in cyber attacks and counter attacks
- Security of codes/software, including those generated by foundation models
- Large language models and cybersecurity
- Security and privacy in the metaverse
- Securing IoT devices via smart contracts, federated learning, and/or explainable AI
- Human factors in cybersecurity and cyber resilience
- eHealth security, user privacy, and digital identity
- Trust in human-AI teaming
- Biometrics and forensics

The UMR is located at the UQO Lucien Brault Campus in Gatineau (Québec), situated next to Ottawa, Canada's capital. The Ottawa-Gatineau region is known as Canada's cybersecurity hub, with hundreds of companies working in cybersecurity, digital transformation, and digital identity, including several government facilities, such as the Canadian Centre for Cybersecurity, the Communications Security Establishment, and Public Safety Canada. Gatineau is also known for its excellent quality of life, provided in part by the presence of multiple parks and tranquil green spaces throughout the city.

To support the growth of the UMR and boost cybersecurity research excellence in the region, **we have several openings for MSc and PhD students with <u>full scholarships</u>** for both national and international students. Research topics can include those above, or other related topics. Interested candidates should send i) their CVs, ii) a cover letter motivating their application, highlighting their interests in cybersecurity and potential research theme, iii) transcripts, and iv) names of three references to umr-cybersec@uqo.ca by April 20, 2024 or until all positions are filled. Incomplete application packages will not be considered. Applications from skilled and experienced members of the four designated groups (Indigenous peoples, individuals who are racialized, persons with disabilities, women and gender minorities), as per the Employment Equity Act guidelines, are highly encouraged. ***Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.***

More details about the UMR can be found at: https://inrs.ca/la-recherche/chaires-groupes-et-reseaux-de-recherche/repertoire-des-chaires-groupes-et-reseaux-de-recherche/unite-mixte-de-recherche-inrs-uqo-sur-la-cybersecurite/