Title: MyWorld: Intelligent Cinematography

Type of award  PhD Research Studentship

Department  Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Visual Information Laboratory

Scholarship Details  Minimum £17,668 p.a. in 2022/23 rising to £18,622 in 2023/24

Duration  3 years

Eligibility  Home (UK) and EU citizens who have confirmation of UK settlement or pre-settlement status under the EU Settlement Scheme

Start Date  From September 2023

PhD Topic Background/Description

This project will employ AI-based technologies to enhance motion-picture photography and visual storytelling effectively. These include composition of a scene, camera positions, lighting design and scene understanding. You will work on both image-based and volumetric data, captured with professional production technologies and drones. The content creation will be done through the cutting-edge virtual production and immersive suite, built in the Sheds.

Launched in April 2021, MyWorld is a brand-new five-year programme, the flagship for the UK’s creative technology sector, and is part of a UK-wide exploration into devolved research and development funding (UKRI video). Led by the University of Bristol, MyWorld will position the South West as an international trailblazer in screen-based media. This £46m programme will bring together 30 partners from Bristol and Bath’s creative technologies sector and world-leading academic institutions, to create a unique cross-sector consortium. MyWorld will forge dynamic collaborations to progress technological innovation, deliver creative excellence, establish, and operate state of the art facilities, offer skills training, and drive inward investment, raising the region’s profile on the global stage.

URL for further information: http://www.myworld-creates.com/

Candidate Requirements

Applicants must hold/achieve a minimum of a master’s degree (or international equivalent) in a relevant discipline. Applicants without a master’s qualification may be considered on an exceptional basis, provided they hold a first-class undergraduate degree. Please note, acceptance will also depend on evidence of readiness to pursue a research degree.

If English is not your first language, you need to meet this profile level:
Profile E
Further information about English language requirements and profile levels.

Basic skills and knowledge required

Essential: Excellent analytical skills and experimental acumen.
Desirable: A background understanding in one or more of the following:
Image processing / Computational photography
Artificial intelligence/Machine learning/Deep learning
3D Geometry / Multi View Geometry

Scholarship Details
Stipend at the UKRI minimum stipend level will also cover tuition fees at the UK student rate. Funding is subject to eligibility status and confirmation of award.

To be treated as a home student, candidates must meet one of these criteria:
- be a UK national (meeting residency requirements)
- have settled status
- have pre-settled status (meeting residency requirements)
- have indefinite leave to remain or enter.

Application Process
- All candidates should submit a full CV and covering letter to myworldrecruitment@myworld-creates.com (FAO: Professor David R. Bull) by the deadline.
- Formal applications for PhD are not essential at this stage, but can be submitted via the University of Bristol homepage (clearly marked as MyWorld funded): https://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/apply/
- A Selection Panel will be established to review all applications and to conduct interviews of short-listed candidates.
- Candidates will be invited to give a presentation prior to their formal interview, as part of the final selection process. It is expected that the shortlisting selection process will commence 9 October 2023, with interviews to follow.
- The initial closing date for applications is 30 September 2023. The positions will however remain available until all scholarships are awarded.

For questions about eligibility and the application process please contact Engineering PGR Admissions at admissions-engpgr@bristol.ac.uk.