

AISS GRANT FOR UNIVERSITIES FOR IoT ACTIVITY

Accenture Industrial Software Solutions (AISS) establishes a grant program for targeted Universities. The grant program offers funding for Universities to support and encourage R&D and innovation in the field of IoT-related technologies in alignment with Accenture interests and business scope. Grant proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by a committee of experts designated by AISS.

Grant Program Goals

The goals of the grant program are to:

- Provide a mechanism to share and communicate innovations in IoT-related technologies.
- Create an environment where university staff can run self-managed, cutting-edge technology projects.
- Support universities in their R&D activity.
- Conduct feasibility studies for innovations.

Strategic Focus Areas and Timeline Requirements

Applicants may propose innovative projects in the area of IoT, such as (but not limited to):

1. Internet of things (IoT) also means a trillion points of vulnerability. Every single device and sensor in IoT represents a potential risk. How confident can an organization be that each of these devices have the controls in place to preserve the confidentiality of the collected data and the integrity of the data sent?
2. IoT – trust and data integrity. Corporate systems will be assaulted with data from all kind of connected sensors. How sure can an organization be that the data has not been compromised or interfered with?
3. IoT – data collection, protection and privacy. The collected information will help us make better decisions, but this will also have an impact on privacy expectations. If data collected by connected devices is compromised it will undermine trust in the IoT.
4. Search-based software engineering (SBSE) in testing and bug fixing. Explore novel ways in which optimization can be used to tackle two major software engineering problems: testing and bug fixing.
5. Simultaneous localization and mapping (SLAM). Explore novel ways of constructing or updating a map of an unknown environment while simultaneously keeping track of an agent's location within it.

The proposed R&D projects should be in the length of 1 to 6 month and conducted in the period of January – August 2016.

Eligibility Requirements

University members are eligible to participate in the implementation of the proposed project. They are expected to form teams consisting of 4 to 5 individuals led by a senior university member.

Grant Recipient Expectations

University members will regularly report project implementation to AISS contact person. The exact regularity depends on the project and will be defined in the project contract.

After the end of the project implementation period, grant recipients will be expected to:

- Submit a journal-ready case study that details their work.
- Be available to present their work at workshops organized by AISS.
- Spend all awarded funds by the deadline set forth in the grant agreement.

Funding Limit:

Covering the full or partial implementation costs (there are expected that majority of the costs, if not fully, to be personnel costs) of a selected project, in the range of 5.000 RON (for one-month long, four-people projects) to 30.000 RON (for six-month long, five-people projects)

Grant Proposal Process

Proposals should consist of no more than five pages and should include the following items:

1. The names and titles of all faculty and staff members working on the project.
2. A summary paragraph of no more than 200 words describing the proposed project, its goals, and methods of investigation.
3. A narrative of no more than three pages detailing the proposed project, method of investigation, goals, the expected outcomes and innovative aspects.
4. A review of the current best practices or other relevant information concerning the state of the problem area that will be under investigation (no more than one page). Information regarding practices at other institutions of higher education is especially relevant.
5. A detailed, line-item budget for the project.
6. Proposals will be ranked and funding will be recommended by a committee formed from managers and experts of AISS.

Timeline of the program

30th of November 2015 – receiving proposals

15th of December 2015 – announcing selected projects

15th of January 2016 – signing contracts

20th of January 2016 – starting the implementation of contracted projects

Contact

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