



JOB OPPORTUNITY:
Software Engineer/Developer

The Knight News Innovation Lab is now staffing up help to the accelerate innovation in digital publishing in the Chicago area. Funded by the Knight Foundation, the Lab works with the University’s journalism and engineering schools to help local publishers create new opportunities to connect with online audiences.

Our software engineer/developers will work as part of a small team based at Northwestern’s Evanston campus, frequently interacting with journalists, faculty, students and other software developers at the Lab and at our media partners.

The ideal candidate has strong technical expertise, good interpersonal skills and familiarity with online journalism and social media—as well as the desire to be part of a start-up team with the goal of making a big impact on publishing in Chicagoland and beyond.

Job Summary

The person in this position will create innovative software for deployment on news and information sites that partner with the Knight News Innovation Laboratory at Northwestern University.

Principal Accountabilities

- Develops software for the creation, distribution, and consumption of news, including:
 - contextual search technologies to retrieve information from databases, web sites, and social media
 - graphical visualizations to display quantitative and geospatial information to journalists and end-users

- hyper-local community-based information gathering and sharing tools for journalists, publishers and end-users
- applications designed specifically to enhance information delivery on mobile devices such as phones and tablets
- Contributes to the design of Lab software
- Tests Lab software prior to release
- Works with partner sites to deploy Lab software

Minimum Qualification:

Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience

Preferred Qualification:

Master's degree in computer science or a related field

Minimum Competencies: (Skills, knowledge, and abilities.)

- Programming experience with one or more of the following languages: Python, PHP, Perl, Java, and SQL and/or NoSQL (e.g., MongoDB)
- Web server development experience, in PHP, Java, or .Net, or similar

Preferred Competencies: (Skills, knowledge, and abilities)

- User interface development skills with HTML, including HTML5, and CSS
- User interface and back-end development skills with iPhone and/or Android apps, and SMS-based applications
- Able to set up and use one or more web frameworks, such as Django, CakePHP, or Ruby on Rails
- Able to set up and use a modern source control repository, such as git or SVN
- Able to set up and use a continuous integration server, such as Jenkins/Hudson or CruiseControl
- Able to set up and use task tracking software such as PivotalTracker
- Able to effectively apply appropriate Agile practices from XP and Scrum, such as test-driven development, time-boxed iterations, and continuous deployment
- Able to develop and implement simple effective user testing strategies
- Able to tune and optimize database for performance and transactional robustness
- Able to implement secured web and mobile applications

Please send your resume to knightlab@northwestern.edu

If you visit Northwestern's online job board at <http://www.northwestern.edu/hr/jobs/>, Knight Lab jobs can be found by entering Knight as a keyword.