Company description:

Personal relationships often begin with someone that “initiates” and someone who “reacts”. PearedUp is a social media-networking site designed to change how relationships are formed by reducing the anxiety associated with fear of rejection.

PearedUp eliminates this uncertainty by allowing individuals to select among people they are interested in terms of forming a more personal relationship whether it’s based on friendship, romance, business or professional. Individuals are only connected through mutual consent; but without awareness of the each other’s intent to begin the relationship. In other words, both parties’ privacy is protected and only when each other’s name is placed on the other person’s respective list. At that moment, an invitation is sent to both parties requesting they get “PearedUp” if no match is made, the other person has no knowledge that someone was interested in them. Thus, the model is based on the reward of a meaningful relationship; but without the risk or embarrassment of rejection.

Job Description:

This role is designed for the student intern to actively engage in the creation and development of a predictive “matching” probability model to be used for online dating. The intern will apply learned skills in data mining, software development and predictive modeling on the PearedUp social media platform. This role may require research or knowledge of data mining techniques and algorithms such as those used in recommender systems, nearest neighbor/collaborative filtering, clustering, probabilistic modeling or personality matching algorithms.

Job responsibilities: Develop Prototype “Matching” Algorithm for Online Dating

- Survey of literature and research on recommender systems and dating matching models used for online dating
- Identification of techniques and potential tools for dating matching algorithm
- Define data requirements and build working database for testing algorithm (actual or simulated)
- Design, build and program dating matching algorithm for working prototype
- Assist in the launch of pilot test – DePaul

Required skills and qualifications:

Computer Science & Predictive Analytics:

- Ability to research, design and program an algorithm on predictive compatibility; i.e. the science of match making in dating systems
- Knowledge of data mining techniques in direct application to information retrieval/filtering
- Application of advanced analytical techniques for user profiling and recommender systems
- Technical ability to troubleshoot and correct software application issues
- Detailed understanding of predictive analytics process and applied multivariate techniques
- Ability to work independently and remotely with minimal daily supervision
- High proficiency using PC based applications (Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Access) is required
- Good written and verbal communication skills
**Expected commitment:**
The position is for 10-20 hours/week, with a stipend to be negotiated depending on the candidate’s experience. The initial phase of the project will be 20 weeks for 10 hours/week beginning week of November 14, 2001 or sooner.

**Application:**
Interested and qualified applicants should email their resume and a cover letter describing their qualifications and interest in the position to jgollins@depaul.edu

Please use subject line: PearedUp internship position. **Deadline for application is November 1, 2011.**

**Note:** Students have the option to use this internship for credit by enrolling in the CSC697 Graduate Internship course. Please contact Prof. Raffaella Settimi at rsettimi@cdm.depaul.edu for questions about the course.