

2/27/2020

**PhD traineeships, with two years of full funding, are available through a new NSF NRT: Data and Informatics Graduate Intern-traineeship in Materials at the Atomic Scale (DIGI-MAT).**

The National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) and the Materials Research Laboratory (MRL) in the Grainger College of Engineering are co-hosting a new National Science Foundation NRT program on Materials and Data Science starting in Spring 2020. Participating academic units include the departments of Materials Science and Engineering, Mechanical Science and Engineering, Physics, Computer Science, Statistics, and the iSchool. More information is available here: <https://digi-mat.ncsa.illinois.edu>

**Applications are sought immediately for paid PhD traineeships beginning in August 2020** (for PhD students who entered programs at Illinois in August 2019) and for August 2021 (for PhD students planning to enter programs at Illinois in August 2020). The full traineeship period is 4-5 years -- *with two years of full funding at the level of an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, and a tuition waiver* -- provided by the DIGI-MAT program. The program includes specialized curricula; internship opportunities in industry, national labs, and academia; as well as professional development opportunities.

Applications, consisting of a letter from the PhD advisor (or prospective advisor), a copy of the student's curriculum vitae, and a one page summary of the proposed PhD project relevant to data science and materials at the atomic scale, should be sent to the DIGI-MAT PI and Director, Prof. Harley T. Johnson, at [htj@illinois.edu](mailto:htj@illinois.edu). Selections will be based upon (1) the fit of the proposed PhD projects to the goals of the DIGI-MAT program, (2) the academic record of the PhD student, and (3) the need to balance the awards across the participating units and with respect to demographics. Applications will be received beginning immediately, and slots will be awarded on a rolling basis. It is expected that 8-10 trainees will be selected among Fall 2019 entering PhD students (with funding beginning in August 2020) and 8-10 more trainees will be selected among Fall 2020 entering PhD students (with funding beginning in August 2021). *The use of DIGI-MAT traineeship awards to help recruit Fall 2020 entering PhD students is highly encouraged.* Due to restrictions placed on the funding by NSF, traineeships will be prioritized for students who are US nationals. All traineeship selections will be completed during the spring 2020 semester.

For more information, please contact Prof. Harley T. Johnson ([htj@illinois.edu](mailto:htj@illinois.edu)) directly, or contact any of the other DIGI-MAT NRT faculty steering committee members: Elif Ertekin (MechSE), Pinshane Huang (MatSE), Bo Li (Statistics), Klara Nahrstedt (CS/CSL), Luke Olson (CS), Andre Schleife (MatSE), Dallas Trinkle (MatSE), Matt Turk (iSchool), Lucas Wagner (Physics).