

UNITA recruits an

Head of Development
European University « UNITA Universitas Montium »

Context:

UNITA brings together 12 comprehensive universities with different sizes and trajectories gathering 250.000 students and 21.000 staff. We are situated in rural, mountain, and cross-border regions across three European regions, in ecosystems sharing similar challenges and impacted by core-periphery dynamics. Together with our more than fifty associated partners and the newly established legal entity as full partner we will constitute a unique and powerful ecosystem.

Building on the achievements of the first phase we will bring our cooperation to the next level, contributing to the educational, scientific and cultural progress of our regions, fostering their sustainable development, strengthening the local innovation ecosystems and supporting their transition to a knowledge-based economy, whilst promoting European integration within and beyond them.

We intend to transform the way we cooperate, educate, do research, innovate, and reach out to society. Well within 10 years from now, our learners will be able to choose their personalised, multilingual and international study paths from a rich learning offer. Students, academic and administrative staff will benefit from seamless mobility opportunities across the alliance, including rural experiences. Our institutions will function as innovation incubators matching the ambitions of the European Innovation Agenda and the Skills Agenda.

More information about UNITA: <http://univ-unita.eu/>.

Placement: Timișoara, Romania

The person will be recruited in the UNITA IT Department and will be located in Timișoara, Romania. The activities will be conducted within the scope of the UNITA European University.

1. MISSION

Task 3.4 of the UNITA Project aims at joint actions to establish a user-friendly, interactive environment & information system that is accessible to students and staff, but also to lifelong learners and territorial actors.

A more specific aim of the task is to create a system that exchanges data in an easy-to-use manner across partners, with a focus on data interoperability. UNITA will use romance languages and English for courses, contents, and interfaces to be the more open and inclusive as possible. The task builds on the solid achievements of the pilot phase of UNITA and its Constellation projects Connect-UNITA and INNOUNITA, i.e. an analysis of the requirements from all actions and also the already in-place proof of concept of UNITA inter-university digital campus.

The digital campus will fulfil a central support role for all tasks, as its inter-connected multi-sites (real and virtual) will be the first entry point and main location of interaction, study and work for all alliance actors. The task provides the infrastructure, transparency and digital tools for other tasks to operate and notably voting tools to increase the democratic participation of the communities, catalogues and cartographies to contribute to the personalised international learning paths and seamless mobility, from registration to certification support tools, research hubs cartography and Open data, catalogue of shared infrastructure and knowledge, connected classrooms among others.

All the applications and services shall be developed and maintained through the UNITA IT Department.

The UNITA IT Department will be composed of three IT specialists: the IT department coordinator, an IT Service Manager and an Head of Development. The IT department coordinator will coordinate the team. Moreover, one IT engineer is recruited by each university of the UNITA alliance. Those IT engineers will be in charge of the interoperability of the IT local applications and databases with the UNITA digital tools when needed. They will also participate to the development of some applications, depending on their skills and

competencies. The coordinator of the IT department will oversee the collective efforts of all IT personnel engaged in the technological advancements for UNITA.

The UNITA IT Department will aim to ensure the interoperability of data and applications offered jointly to academic communities in UNITA.

The activities currently carried out by the already existing departments in the universities will not be carried out by the newly created department. The joint department will have the goal of designing, developing, deployment and maintaining a digital ecosystem that ensures the coherence of the applications and services offered jointly and the interoperability of the existing information systems in each university.

The department will cover the following areas of activity:

- Software development and support for the use of UNITA Virtual Campus (UVC) by all members of the academic community (students, academic staff, administrative staff) and other relevant stakeholders.
- System orchestration and administration
- Networking
- Security and compliance (including data protection);

Head of Development Highlights

Reporting to

IT Department Coordinator

Line reports

Development team members

Scope of role

To lead and manage a team of software developers (provided by each alliance partner) , supporting them in building UNITA Virtual Campus, Responsible for the quality and technical approach taken by team members, ensuring it is in-line with the UNITA strategy . Creating and maintaining a professional culture within the team.

2. ACTIVITIES:

Main activities:

- Develops the architecture of the UNITA Virtual Campus
- Coordinates the development team - Strategic Leadership
- Team Leadership and Management - Lead, mentor, and motivate software development teams to ensure high performance and engagement.
- Project Management and Delivery - Collaborate with cross-functional teams (e.g., product managers, designers, QA) to align on project goals and priorities.
- Software Development Oversight
- Manage the full software development lifecycle (SDLC) for all projects. Deploys agile practices where applicable.
- Develop and oversee the implementation of long-term technology roadmaps
- Ensures scalability, flexibility and deployment of the new architecture
- Oversees the creation of the technical documentation for the tools developed
- To write clean and healthy structured, well documented code
- To build future-proof reusable core code libraries, which can be shared, in-order to drive further efficiencies throughout the team
- To deliver code which is well tested and consistently error free
- Technical Innovation and Problem Solving - Drive the adoption of modern development tools, methodologies, and best practices.
- Monitors new technology developments and applies if appropriate.
- Quality Assurance and Compliance - Ensure adherence to industry standards, compliance regulations, and best practices in cybersecurity and data protection. Oversee the integration of automated testing and quality assurance processes in the development pipeline.
- Stakeholder Engagement - Gather feedback from users and stakeholders to refine development priorities.

Associated activities:

- Take part in internal meetings of T3.4;
- Take part in UNITA meetings, regarding the development of the virtual campus (in English);

Get involved in the professional networks linked to UNITA

Specificities:

- Punctual travels in Italy, France, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland and Romania;
- Multiple contact persons,
- Punctual availability out of office hours and on weekends.

3. COMPETENCES**Skills-:****Technical expertise required:**

- Strong background and experience in software engineering
- Strong experience in software engineering project management (agile approach, technical project management, modeling and documentation).
- Software Development Lifecycle (SDLC): Deep understanding of all phases, from requirements gathering to deployment and maintenance.
- Programming Languages: Proficiency in multiple programming languages (e.g., Python, Java, C#, JavaScript, etc.) to lead diverse development teams.
- Frameworks and Tools: Familiarity with modern frameworks (e.g., React, Angular, Django, Spring) and development tools (e.g., Node.JS ,Git, Docker, Kubernetes).
- Cloud Platforms: Expertise in scalable applications and service development on cloud technologies (e.g.,OVHcloud, AWS, Azure, Google Cloud) .
- DevOps Practices: Strong grasp of CI/CD pipelines, infrastructure as code (IaC), and automation tools (e.g., Jenkins, Ansible).
- Web applications and services development.
- Database Management: Experience with both relational (SQL) and non-relational (NoSQL) databases, ensuring efficient data handling and storage.
- Cybersecurity: Knowledge of secure coding practices and compliance standards to safeguard applications and systems.

Technical expertise appreciated:

- Good understanding of Learning Management Systems (such as Moodle)-.
- AI and Machine Learning knowledge ;
- Interoperability tools and methods;
- Data visualisation;
- Security, quality, maintenance and evolution standards;
- Quality and reliability of the software products
- Good level of English (B2 minimum) and if possible, another romance language (French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Romanian);

Soft skills-:

- Organisation and **plan**ning ;
- Communication skills ;
- Resourcefulness and a sense of initiative;
- Team work in an intercultural team;
- Time management;
- Responsiveness, thoroughness and responsibility;
- Writing skills in English;
- Adaptation and flexibility.

4. EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS

- Period of the contract: Contract should start as soon as possible, with a duration by the end of the month October 2027 (Yearly continuity)
- Monthly gross salary: 54000 € gross salary per year (12 months), depending on experience and competencies ;
- Holidays: 2,16 days per month (26 annual days + 32 hours of annual leave)
- Working time: 8 hours/day

Recruitment process :

To apply, send a resume and a cover letter via email to unita@e-uvv.ro by 17.01.2025

If you have any questions related to the position, you can contact us at the following email:
unita@e-uvv.ro.