Post-doc position in causal data analysis

Applications are invited for a full-time 4-year post-doc position in the context of an interdisciplinary project on Boolean causal data analysis hosted at the Department of Philosophy of the University of Geneva.

The project, which is funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation, focuses on methodological questions and problems in the area of Boolean data analysis, which is currently dominated by the method of Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA). In particular, the project aims to bring Coincidence Analysis (CNA)----a close relative of QCA----from the methodological drawing board to effective, flexible, theoretically grounded, and computer-assisted applicability in real-life contexts of causal discovery.

The ideal candidate has completed PhD on questions related to causal data analysis, preferably with a background in a scientific discipline using Boolean methods, for instance, social/political sciences or biology. Publications in international journals are a plus. French language skills are not necessary, while an excellent command of English is imperative. The ideal starting date for the position is March 1, 2014. A later date might be possible (this should be explicitly requested in the application).

The gross salary for this position is between CHF 75’000 and CHF 79’000 per year. The successful candidate will be encouraged to integrate her/his ongoing research into the context of this project and to seek collaborations in her/his home discipline at the University of Geneva. The project will be directed by Prof. Michael Baumgartner. Additional group members will include a PhD student as well as a software engineer.

Applications should be sent by e-mail and should include a letter explaining the candidate’s interest in the position, a detailed CV (including the names of three people that may be contacted for references), copies of relevant certificates and diplomas, a list of publications and one article- or chapter-length writing sample. The deadline for receipt of applications is January 25, 2014.

Applications as well as informal inquiries should be directed by e-mail only to Prof. Michael Baumgartner (mbaumgartner@uni-osnabrueck.de).
PhD position in the philosophy of causation

A 3-year PhD position (with possible renewal for an additional year) is available in the context of an interdisciplinary project on Boolean causal data analysis hosted at the Department of Philosophy of the University of Geneva.

The project, which is funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation, focuses on philosophical and methodological questions in the area of Boolean data analysis, which is currently dominated by the method of Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA). In particular, the project aims to explore the theoretical foundations of Boolean data analysis and to bring Coincidence Analysis (CNA)---a close relative of QCA---from the methodological drawing board to effective, flexible, and computer-assisted applicability in real-life contexts of causal discovery.

The ideal candidate has a strong background in theoretical analytical philosophy, preferably in either the philosophy of science, metaphysics, or epistemology. A completed master's degree and an excellent command of English are required. French language skills are not necessary. The ideal starting date for the position is March 1, 2014. A later date might be possible (this should be explicitly requested in the application).

The resulting dissertation should lay the theoretical foundation of Boolean causal data analysis, in particular, it should explore and clarify

- what the metaphysical, conceptual, and epistemic features of the Boolean dimensions of causation are,
- what theory of causation best accounts for the Boolean dimensions,
- for which research contexts the Boolean dimensions are relevant (and for which they are not),
- how Boolean methods as QCA and CNA relate to other methods of causal inference, e.g. to Bayes-nets methods.

The gross salary for this position is between CHF 42'000 and CHF 48'000 per year. The project will be directed by Prof. Michael Baumgartner. Additional group members will include an associate on the post-doc level as well as a software engineer.

Applications should be sent by e-mail and should include a letter explaining the candidate's interest in the position, a CV, copies of relevant certificates and diplomas, one letter of reference and the name of one further referee, as well as one article- or chapter-length writing sample. The deadline for receipt of applications is January 25, 2014.

Applications as well as informal inquiries should be directed by e-mail only to Prof. Michael Baumgartner (mbaumgartner@uni-osnabrueck.de).