Call for Experts / Project Leaders
in Computational Social Science methods and/or quantitative research on social cohesion to participate in and guide a research project at the

BIGSSS Summer School in Computational Social Science:
Data-driven Modeling of Social Cohesion

We cordially invite applications for participation as an **expert and project leader** in our computational social science (CSS) **summer school on data-driven modeling of social cohesion** to take place in **Groningen** (Netherlands), hosted by the **Department of Sociology / ICS** at the University of Groningen from **July 6 to 17, 2020**. **Female experts are particularly encouraged to apply.**

The summer school will serve as a research incubator aimed at fostering the use of computational methods in the social sciences and developing a topical contributions to the definition, measurement, as well as causes and consequences of social cohesion broadly conceived. Possible topics relating to social cohesion concern, for example, adherence to and compliance with prosocial norms, opinion polarization, social segregation, or trust and cooperation. Eight teams of five people will be working on specific research projects. Each team will consist of three junior researchers (MA/Ph.D./early Postdoc) and two senior experts as project leaders, ideally one with strong methodological expertise in CSS and the other with strong topical expertise. The goal is to train the 24 participating junior researchers in CSS methods and to give them hands-on expertise in a cutting-edge research project on social cohesion using CSS methods. Each team will work through the whole research process with the aim to prepare a manuscript for scientific publication. The resulting output may be published in an edited volume or a special issue of a peer-reviewed journal.

As project leader/expert you design and guide a research project of your own interest which combines CSS methods with a topical focus on social cohesion in a broad sense. Further on, you give one lecture or a hands-on workshop to all participants. The project may involve data-driven modeling, make use of simulation or prediction, or it might look into the consequences of social cohesion, for instance, its relation to conflicts and migration. We intend to tackle a blend of research questions proposed by experts. You can choose to be involved in the assessment process for participants. Travel expenses (economy class), accommodation, and meals (half-board) will be covered. A small honorarium can be granted, if needed.

To **apply**, please submit **one pdf file (max. 6 pages in total)** by November 3, 2019 at https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=bigssscss2020. The file should include:
1. **Motivation**. Short description of motivation.
2. **Expertise**. Summary of your **expertise in CSS methods or on the topic of social cohesion** (or an aspect of it).
3. **Project proposal** including data and methods. Applications as a **team of two** with a common project idea are welcome. If you apply as a single expert without concrete project, let us know your interest which helps us to find a match (2 pages max.)
4. **Lecture or hands-on workshop**. Title and a short description of one to three potential method or topical lectures or hands-on workshop.
5. **CV and publication list:** A link to a website with both is sufficient.

Please visit https://bigsss-css.jacobs-university.de/ for information on past research incubators and more information on the application process.

Questions to Jan Lorenz at css@bigsss-bremen.de.