



University of Pittsburgh

Graduate School of Public and International Affairs

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POST DOCTORAL POSITION IN ECONOMICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

The Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh has an opening for a 2-year post-doc position in Mechanism Design for Social Applications, with a possible extension to the third year. This position supports collaboration between GSPIA and the School of Computing and Information (SCI).

The collaboration includes Pitt Smart Living, a project funded by a \$1.4M National Science Foundation grant: 'Building a Smart City Economy and Information Ecosystem to Motivate Prosocial Transportation Behavior' ([#1739413](#)). The post-holder will play a significant role in building a marketplace around public transport, including designing time sensitive coupons from local businesses to rebalance transit riders at rush hour. Working with Profs Sera Linardi (experimental economics), Alexandros Labrinidis (data science), Yu-ru Lin (computational social science), Adam Lee (data privacy) and with Prof Onur Kesten in an advisory role (Carnegie Mellon University, market design), the post holder will use theoretical modelling and lab and field experiments to:

- * investigate commuters' response to uncertainty in travel time
- * model firms' decision problem in offering coupons,
- * match commuters to coupons

The project aims to not only publish in academic journals but also create and deploy practical applications. Other projects may include applications of mechanism design to social work.

Candidates should have a strong background in market design. A background in transport economics is helpful but not necessary. The candidate should be near completion of a PhD in microeconomics, computer science or similar fields. Review of applications will begin February 18, 2018, and will continue until the position is filled. Applications should include a curriculum vitae, copies of written work, and a motivation letter addressing candidate's broader interest in social applications of mechanism design. Two letters of reference should be sent directly by the referees. Applications and request for further information can be sent by e-mail to: Prof. Sera Linardi (linardi@pitt.edu)