

Ricardo Resende de Mendonça


PhD Candidate


To:


FNR – Fonds National de la Recherche

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São Paulo, Brazil 📍

Dear Committee Members,

I would like to express my high interest in the PhD subject proposed by LIST. I would also explain my recent motivation to make a PhD, after more than 20 years working in the industry.

I have large experience in computer programming and database administration. I had the opportunity to work with many systems and overcome uncountable hurdles for so many years. In several moments I looked for technical solutions to integrate systems and databases and I learned a lot from this experience. It was a passion for me to dig solutions to complex problems. Five years ago, I was invited share my industrial experience with students at the University. I teach them programming language, but the academic environment offered the opportunity to have enthusiastic exchanges with students and researchers. Thus, I decided to continue my studies and prepare a Master diploma (in Brazil, the under-graduation takes 4-5 years and only after that we can prepare a Master diploma that takes 2-3 years). My background was key to get excellent grades, learn faster new technologies, processes, and methodologies in order to get the best from this study. Now I want to continue my studies and I see that this AFR proposal fits well with my expectation as a researcher.

During my master degree, I discovered the Semantic Web technologies and I realized the added value of this technology to integrate systems and data in the real life. This topic was no longer just a requirement to complete my Master, it became a personal interest, a subject that attracts my curiosity and pushes me to go further in the research activities. I want to discover more and learn how to combine Semantic Web technologies with Machine Learning (another topic that rises my curiosity).

The PhD in Luxembourg is a great opportunity for me to learn both technologies in an applied and useful context. It will allow me to use my experience in the industry and the knowledge acquired during the Master to achieve the high quality results in this research project. I also have high expectation on the advisor of Dr. Pruski and Dr. Da Silveira. My supervisor in my Master degree had the opportunity to work with them and highly recommend them. I believe that all ingredients are available to make a successful PhD: learn an important topic, push my career to a new direction, reinforce the international image of LIST, and provide outcomes that have impact on the Luxembourgish economy. The FNR's vision, mission and strategic priorities increased my conviction that Luxembourg is the right place for me as student and maybe as a professional.

As a PhD candidate, I commit to seeking to satisfy expectations about this project with ethic and great effort.

Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,

Ricardo Resende de Mendonça