Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Quantitative Methods at the Accelerate Hub, Centre for Social Science Research

The Centre for Social Science Research (CSSR) seeks to recruit a post-doctoral research fellow for the UKRI GCRF Accelerating Achievement for Africa's Adolescents (Accelerate) Hub. The Accelerate Hub is led by an interdisciplinary team at Oxford University and the University of Cape Town (UCT), with worldwide partners. It generates evidence on which *development accelerators* – alone and in synergy with each other – can support adolescents in Africa to reach multiple Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) such as health, safety, schooling, nutrition, and employment. The Accelerate Hub brings together five interdisciplinary work-packages using randomized control trials, observational cohort studies and adolescent participatory research all focused on supporting children and young people to thrive in the second decade of life: adolescence.

Our unified goal is to generate high-quality evidence to improve the lives of adolescents across countries in Africa. This post is an exciting opportunity to contribute to research by Hub Work Packages seeking to identify interventions with impacts across multiple SDGs related to adolescent health and wellbeing. The postdoctoral fellowship will contribute by providing quantitative methodological support and advice to senior and early career researchers conducting quantitative analyses in the Accelerate Hub, as well as international agencies wishing to conduct similar analyses. They will also help with coordinating cross-cutting work package engagements aimed at supporting methodological triangulation. A published example of quantitative research conducted by the Hub is available at here. Quantitative methodological development in the Hub is led by Prof Mark Orkin (University of Witwatersrand) and Dr William Rudgard (University of Oxford). As the Accelerate Hub is spread across research institutions in multiple countries, the work is likely to involve some overseas travel.

Conditions of Award:
Eligible applicants must have completed their doctorate within the past 5 years and may have not held any prior permanent academic posts.

The successful candidate will have:
• A doctorate in public health or a social science;
• Experience applying quantitative statistical methods to cross-sectional and longitudinal data from low- and middle-income countries;
• Experience conducting advanced quantitative data analyses using software packages (Stata and R would be an advantage);
• Published first-authored and co-authored papers in peer-reviewed publications of their field;
• Presented at conferences;
• Ability and willingness to teach quantitative methods;
• Experience working effectively as part of a team; and
• The ability to travel for work.

The successful candidate will be required to complete the following research deliverables:
• Plan and conduct quantitative data analyses on topics agreed with principal investigator(s);
• Conduct literature reviews on topics related to analyses planned;
• Support data cleaning and data management as needed;

- Present analyses at seminars, workshops and conferences, and
- Prepare research findings for publication in peer-reviewed journals.

The candidate will be supervised by Dr Elona Toska and will work closely with Dr William Rudgard (University of Oxford) and Professor Mark Orkin (University of the Witwatersrand).

Moreover, the candidate:
- May not hold any other fellowships without permission of their supervisor ;
- May not undertake employment of any nature without the permission of their supervisor, and
- Must comply with the University's approved policies, procedures and practices for the postdoctoral sector.

Value and Tenure:
The value of the fellowship is R365,000 - R435,000 per annum, depending on experience and qualifications, tenable for one year. Renewal for a further year may be considered and is contingent of satisfactory academic progress and availability of funds.

Application Procedure:
Eligible candidates should provide the following in ONE SINGLE PDF:
- A letter describing research interest and the candidate's suitability for the fellowship.
- A CV that includes details for all conference attendance, publications and any other scholarly research output, and the names of two academic referees who have taught/ supervised the candidate at university and can speak to their data analyses skills.
- A published written sample of their work that includes quantitative analyses led by the applicant.

Enquiries and completed application should be forwarded to:
Amanda Swartz at acceleratehub@uct.ac.za

Closing date for receipt of applications: 31 August 2020
Selection: Eligible applicants will be considered by a sub-committee convened by the Accelerate Hub Senior Research Officer.

Please reference "**Accelerate Hub Postdoctoral Quantitative Research Fellow**" in the email subject line.

The University of Cape Town reserves the right to disqualify ineligible, incomplete, and/or inappropriate applications, to change the conditions of award and/or to make no awards at all.