Postdoctoral Research Fellowship on Adolescent Engagement and Participation at the Accelerate Hub, Centre for Social Science Research

The Centre for Social Science Research (CSSR) has established a unit for adolescent research to house the newly funded UKRI GCRF Accelerate Hub (Accelerating Achievement for Africa’s Adolescents) that is co-located at UCT and Oxford University.

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 social science;
- Applicants who have not yet graduated with the PhD degree must provide proof that the PhD thesis has been submitted. Such proof must be accompanied by a written statement by the supervisor that the degree is likely to be achieved;
- Have conducted research on adolescent health and HIV in lower- and middle-income countries, including sub-Saharan Africa;
- Have experience in conducting qualitative research;
- Have experience in conceptualizing, facilitating and organizing adolescent participation and engagement activities;
- Have published in leading peer-reviewed journals in the field; and
- Have presented research findings at conferences and in non-academic fora.

Candidates will have an advantage if they have the following:
- French-language proficiency to support Hub activities in French-speaking African countries;
- Experience working with NGOs or similar agencies on issues of adolescence and/or HIV
- Academic or grant writing experience; and
- Experience with qualitative data analysis using Nvivo.

The successful candidate will be required to complete the following research deliverables:
- Provide conceptual, mentorship, training and capacity-building support for the Accelerate Hub Adolescent Engagement and Participation initiatives, including teen advisory groups;
- Lead or support intellectual work including analysis and writing, from methodological and/or empirical findings stemming from adolescent engagement and participation activities, together with the Accelerate Hub investigator team;
- Mentor and co-supervise Hub students and researchers on Adolescent Participation and Engagement, in particular the Hub Adolescent Participation and Engagement Project Officer.
- Provide support in the development or refinement of the Accelerate Hub documentation of Adolescent Engagement and Participation, including, protocols, policies and ethics documents;
Provide qualitative capacity-building support to the Accelerate Hub early career researchers on Adolescent Participation and Engagement, research in context and dissemination;

Presentation of the Hub’s Adolescent Participation and Engagement work at seminars, workshops and conferences; and

Writing and preparing research findings for publication in peer-reviewed journals.

The candidate will work closely with Dr Elona Toska (UCT/ Oxford) and Prof Lucie Cluver (UCT/ Oxford).

Moreover, the candidate:

• May not hold any other fellowships without permission of the Accelerate Hub Senior Research Officer;
• May not undertake employment of any nature without the permission of the Hub Senior Research Officer, 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 R125,000-R210,000 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 written sample on adolescent research led by the applicant.

Enquiries and completed application should be forwarded to acceleratehub@uct.ac.za.

Closing date for receipt of applications: 15th December 2019

Selection: Eligible applicants will be considered by a sub-committee convened by the Accelerate Hub Senior Research Officer.

Please reference “Accelerate Hub Postdoctoral 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.