



Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Intellectual Property Law

Department of Commercial Law, University of Cape Town, South Africa

The Intellectual Property Unit (IP Unit) at the Department of Commercial Law, University of Cape Town invites applications for a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in the area of Intellectual Property Law. The selected fellow will primarily work on one of our projects: One Ocean Hub.

Scope and Purpose

Together with other entities at UCT, the IP Unit is involved in The One Ocean Hub project (<https://oneoceanhub.org/>). The One Ocean Hub is an independent programme for collaborative research for development, funded by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) through the Global Challenges Research Fund. The Hub is a community of scholars from 22 leading international Universities and Research Centres from the UK, South Africa, Ghana, Namibia, Kenya, the South Pacific and the Caribbean. The Hub is led and hosted by the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK.

Broadly, this full-time fellowship is intended to support the One Ocean Hub project by contributing towards the understanding of various intellectual property aspects related to ocean exploration, exploitation and management. More specifically, the Research Fellow will be required, under the supervision of under the supervision of A/Prof. Tobias Schonwetter and in collaboration with project partners, to:

- Develop and execute a substantive research agenda around intellectual property (IP) ownership and benefit sharing of the ocean space and resources (incl. negotiations concerning the UN's BBNJ instrument) as well as the practical integration of local/indigenous and scientific knowledge.
- identify and address IP-related research questions
- address other internal IP questions if and when these arise
- contribute to and refine the project's internal data management plan
- contribute to and refine the project's internal publication plan
- forge relevant partnerships with networks and institutions
- ensure that the project's work on IP rights aligns with the Terms of Reference for the South African working group

- participate in and contribute to regular project meetings and workshops (virtual and/or face-to-face)
- develop research in the area of intellectual property and the maritime environment within the scope of the One Ocean Hub's objectives;
- assist the Hub research partners with intellectual property related queries;
- liaise with the Hub research partners with a view to promoting collaborative research;
- implement research findings into the teaching curriculum of the IP Unit; and
- assist with the identification of further research opportunities and initiate new post-graduate research projects.

The Research Fellow may also be requested to participate in departmental activities. In addition, the successful applicant will be encouraged and supported to conduct self-initiated research during the tenure of the Fellowship under the supervision of A/Prof. Tobias Schonwetter.

Tenure and Value

The initial tenure of the fellowship is for one year, from 1 August 2020 to 31 July 2021, and is renewable, contingent on satisfactory academic progress and availability of funds.

The Fellowship is valued at ZAR240,000 per annum and does not include any benefits or allowances. An application to SARS for tax-exemption will be made by the University on behalf of the successful candidate.

If the start date for this position is affected either by the candidate being under COVID-19-related travel restrictions or the campus being closed, remote working options can be negotiated.

Requirements

Applicants must:

- hold a PhD degree specialising in intellectual property law or a related area. The PhD must have been granted within the past 5 years (alternatively, satisfactory evidence must be presented that the PhD examination process will be successfully completed within 6 months from the time the fellowship is taken up);
- provide evidence of strong scholarly performance, including an extended research and publication record, experience of delivering papers at conferences, and research experience as part of a large multi-disciplinary research project;
- have research and teaching experience at the intersection of intellectual property law and (marine) genetic resources, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol;
- be interested and able to work on social media, writing and posting blogs.

Skills in using technology as a collaborative research tool is an additional asset. The successful candidate will be required to register as a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of

Cape Town and comply with the University's approved policies, procedures and practices for the postdoctoral sector.

Applicant may not previously have held full-time permanent professional or academic posts.

Applications

Required documents:

- A letter of application expressing research experience and interests;
- a full CV, including list of publications;
- copies (or certified transcripts) of academic transcripts; and
- names and contact details of at least two academics who have taught, supervised or worked alongside the applicant.

Applications should be sent to Ms Nan Warner, nancy.warner@uct.ac.za under the heading "OOH Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship 2020".

The deadline for applications is **15 June 2020**.

Eligible and complete applications will be considered by the Director of the IP Unit. The University of Cape Town reserves the right to disqualify ineligible, incomplete and/or inappropriate applications, and change the conditions of award or to make no awards at all.