Postdoctoral Fellowship in “Digital Storytelling for Maternal Health”

The UCT Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) Lab invites applications from suitably qualified doctoral graduates for a postdoctoral research fellowship to work on the “Digital Storytelling for Maternal Health” project.

In this project we seek to leverage existing practices around storytelling and knowledge sharing to inspire and foster community-based creation of locally-relevant digital resources by parents and expectant parents of children in the first thousand days (conception to two years).

This position is intended to bridge the interdisciplinary requirements of the research. As such, we welcome suitable candidates from any appropriate discipline (e.g. public health, information systems, anthropology, community development), provided that they have experience doing research about use of information technologies in health contexts.

The successful candidate will participate in the following activities:

- Work with computer science postgraduate students to develop appropriate methods for the project, and to execute the research
- Facilitate interaction with project collaborators, assisting with coordination of deployments, interviews, workshops, and other project activities
- Designing, implementing, deploying and testing innovations suitable empowering bandwidth-constrained parents as co-designers and producers of digital resources
- Examining the methods, values, ethics and tools used in co-design research

Applicants must

- have obtained a doctoral degree in any relevant field within the past 5 years;
- have held no previous professional or academic posts;
- be willing to take up the fellowship in 2020;
- be based in Cape Town;
- demonstrate congruence between his/her research interests and the research areas outlined above;
- have an established or emerging publication record;
- be able to work in an interdisciplinary team environment;
- have good organizational and management skills;
- have good written and oral communication skills;
- be prepared to undertake limited teaching/supervision duties as part of his/her professional development;
- be prepared to register at the University of Cape Town as a postdoctoral research fellow and to comply with the policies and practices of the Postdoctoral Research Sector of the University.

Value and tenure of the fellowship:
The HCI Lab will fund the postdoctoral fellowship to the value of R205,000 for a full academic year. Relocation costs of up to R15 000 will be paid by the HCI Lab. Fellowships are awarded for one year and are renewable for another year on approval of a progress report. The University will assist in providing relevant information, but the onus will be on the candidate to secure their own accommodation.

**Conditions of Award:**
The successful candidate will be required to:

- register as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at UCT ASAP, but no later than **1 March 2020**;
- enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Dr Melissa Densmore and adhere to the plans and agreements therein;
- submit at least one peer-reviewed publication within the period of the award, although final publication may occur later.
- comply with the University’s approved policies, procedures and practices for the postdoctoral sector

**Application Procedure:**
Apply by email to melissa.densmore@uct.ac.za, with the subject line “HCI Postdoc Application” providing the following documentation in a single PDF document:

- a cover letter describing the applicant’s research interests and how they align with the objectives of the “Digital Street Theater for Maternal Health” project;
- a CV that includes full details of publications;
- copies of all academic transcripts and certificates for previous degrees and the doctoral degree;
- the names of two academic referees with whom the applicant has worked

**Selection**
Only eligible and complete applications will be considered. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

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

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**School of Information Technology website:**
[www.sit.uct.ac.za](http://www.sit.uct.ac.za)