A Call to Support a UKZN Post-Doctoral Fellowship Application at HEARD

Research Area: Gender Equality and HIV Prevention

Gender inequalities have for many years been recognised as a key driver of the epidemic, yet despite this, effective interventions to tackle these are limited and rarely put into practice. The Gender Equality and HIV Prevention Programme, at HEARD, of the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is working to build the evidence base on what works to transform unequal gender relations and translate this into meaningful and effective policies and programmes so that HIV prevention can become a reality.

The Programme is seeking to identify a scholar with a recent PhD, who it will support to apply for a UKZN Post-Doctoral Fellowship.

Details:
- The UKZN Post-Doc is a one year contract (renewable for a second subject to performance and funding), funded by the National Research Foundation (NRF) and managed by UKZN
- It is valued at R15,000/month and is not subject to tax
- The Post-Doc is NOT limited to South Africans
- If successful the Post-Doc would be hosted by the Gender Equality and HIV Prevention Programme at HEARD, and will be based in Durban, South Africa.

To be awarded a UKZN Post-Doctoral Fellowship a candidate has to provide a research proposal as part of their application. The Gender Equality and HIV Prevention Programme will select one person to support in their application whose proposal relates directly to the Programme’s specific areas of interest, namely:

- Gender, livelihoods and HIV – women’s economic reliance on men, and men’s lack of economic power, contribute in multiple ways to gender based violence and HIV. Structural interventions are increasingly trying to understand and intervene around this. Expanding the evidence base around this is critical.
- Gender and HIV policy – including its development, implementation and content. Whether at a national, pan-African or global level. In particular, why it does, or does not work.
- LGBTI, gender equality and HIV – research on HIV is often hetero-normative and ignores alternative sexualities. We would welcome proposals that seek to explore the issues of alternative sexualities, HIV and gender equality.
- Innovative approaches to intervening and challenging unequal gender norms – video, films, theatre and other approaches offer different ways to encourage people to reflect on gender relationships and challenge them. We would be interested in proposals that explore any innovative approach to challenging gender norms.

Should the Post-Doctoral Fellowship be awarded by UKZN, the Gender Equality and HIV Prevention Programme would provide a small amount of funding for research activities. In addition, support and mentoring would be provided by the Programme team.

Requirements for undertaking a UKZN Post Doc with the Gender Equality and HIV Prevention Programme at HEARD:
- Have completed a PhD, within the last five years, that is focused on gender and HIV
• Be committed to working on gender equality and HIV
• Preference will be given to candidates from southern and eastern Africa.

Please note: while the Post-Doc will be hosted by HEARD, the person will be registered with the College of Law & Management, UKZN.

To apply please send:
• 1 page covering letter of motivation
• Applicants CV with two references
• 2 page concept note on provisional research area and topic you would want to undertake that relates to the Gender Programme’s area(s) of interest (as listed above)

Please submit to programme manager, Samantha Willan, the Gender Equality and HIV Prevention Programme at samantha.willan@gmail.com, or Andrew Gibbs, at gibbs@ukzn.ac.za by Monday 29 October 2012. Final applications to UKZN then need to be finalised by 9 November 2012

Process:
Once a suitable candidate is identified by the Gender Equality and HIV Prevention Programme, s/he will be supported by HEARD in applying to UKZN for the Post-Doctoral award.

Please note:
Initial selection, and subsequent support by the Gender Equality and HIV Prevention Programme, HEARD, does not automatically guarantee acceptance for the Post-Doc by the University of KwaZulu-Natal.