



Post-Doctoral Fellowship at Brighton and Sussex Medical School

Background

The Department of Global Health and Infection at Brighton & Sussex Medical School (BSMS), in collaboration with the University of Rwanda, has obtained a grant from the UK National Institute for Health Research, to conduct research on severe stigmatizing skin diseases from a social science perspective (2019-2023).

This project entitled: **Social Sciences for Severe Stigmatizing Skin Diseases (The 5-S Foundation)** aims to end neglect of two stigmatizing skin diseases (podoconiosis and scabies) in Rwanda through bringing the social sciences to bear on these conditions by identifying interventions informed by social science perspectives at the level of the patient, the community, and national & international policy.

As part of this partnership, we are looking for a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow (PDRF) to work with the 5-S Foundation team.

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow Description

PDRF Title: Post-Doctoral Research Fellow

Location: University of Rwanda, Kigali

Direct reports: Dr Peter J. Mugume

Key contacts: Members of 5S Foundation, members of faculty within the University, network of stakeholders engaged in project, and target audiences

Role and Description

The PDRF holder will work on the evaluation of an existing intervention or the development of a new intervention directed at podoconiosis patients in Rwanda. S/he will closely work with PDRFs in Ethiopia, Sudan and the UK, and PhD students within Rwanda.



KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. In close collaboration with the 5-S team and counterparts, coordinate research deliverables
2. Provide technical and conceptual support to a PhD project
3. Provide technical support to the UK-based 5-S PDRF's research on national and global NTD policy.
4. Contribute more broadly to health and social science capacity development in project partner countries including Sudan and Ethiopia.
5. Develop research objectives and proposals for own or joint research, at acceptable levels, with assistance if required.
6. Conduct research projects individually and in collaboration with others.
7. Analyse and interpret research findings and draw conclusions from the outcomes
8. Produce high-quality research outputs for publication in monographs or recognised high-quality journals, or performance/exhibition, as appropriate
9. Contribute to the preparation of proposals and applications to external bodies, for example for funding purposes.
10. Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks and relevant external networks in order to form relationships and collaborations.
11. Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism, and engage in continuous professional development.
12. Undertake additional duties, as required by the Principal and co-Investigators, BSMS and the University of Rwanda

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

1. A PhD (or equivalent experience) in social or health sciences, or intervention evaluation in a health-related area
2. Evidence of engagement in high-quality research activity
3. Excellent presentation skills, with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.
4. Ability to work individually on own initiative and without close supervision, and as part of a team.
5. Ability to exercise a degree of innovation and creative problem-solving. Excellent organizational and administrative skills
6. Ability to prioritize and meet deadlines.
7. Excellent IT skills.



DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Emerging track record of high-quality publications in reputable journals and other appropriate media of similar standing.
2. Experience of generating research or knowledge exchange income.
3. Experience in project evaluation

Skills and abilities	Essential	Desirable
Strong intervention evaluation skills.	X	
Ability to work as part of an international team.	X	
Excellent academic and copy writing skills	X	
Ability to supervise graduate students	X	

Knowledge	Essential	Desirable
Knowledge of neglected tropical diseases		X

Personal Attributes	Essential	Desirable
Collaborative style of working	X	

Women are strongly encouraged to apply.

Funding

The funding will be guaranteed by the project “*Social Sciences for Severe Stigmatizing Skin Diseases (The 5-S Foundation)*” and will include: stipend, research and travel costs.

The deadline for application is 7th May 2020. Only shortlisted applicants will be invited for interview. Interested and qualified applicants can send their CV, copies of degrees and grade report, recommendation letter, and one-page statement of intent (motivation for application) by email to Gloriose Gashaija Umulisa, the scholarship officer at UR (gashaijagloriose@gmail.com) and copy to the project coordinators: Dr Peter J. Mugume (jonmugume@gmail.com), Dr Shahaduz Zaman s.zaman@bsms.ac.uk and Professor Gail Davey g.davey@bsms.ac.uk.



Application file

The applicant must submit the following documents (well numbered)

1. Application letter addressed to the Director of the University of Rwanda Centre for Postgraduate Studies (UR CPGS); the letter should demonstrate commitment, motivation and reasons for interests in this PhD Program. A special section should be devoted to demonstrating how the applicant meets the above requirements;
2. Curriculum Vitae
3. Copy of the degrees and grade report (Masters degree in the mentioned area)
4. Recommendation letter

How to apply?

Interested and qualified applicants can send their documents as described above by email to Gloriose Gashaija Umulisa, the scholarship officer at UR (gashaijagloriose@gmail.com) and copy to the project coordinators: Dr Peter J. Mugume (jonmugume@gmail.com), Dr Shahaduz Zaman (s.zaman@bsms.ac.uk) and Professor Gail Davey (g.davey@bsms.ac.uk).

Key dates (Timeline):

1. The deadline for application is 7th May 2020 at 5:00pm.
2. Not later than 12th May 2020, the list of shortlisted applicants will be published on UR Website and invited for interviews.
3. Interviews will be organised not later than 22th May 2020
4. Successful applicants will receive the nomination letters for scholarships not later than 28th May 2020

For more information

Applicants can contact the Project PI, Dr Peter MUGUME (email: jonmugume@gmail.com)

Done at Kigali on 10th April 2020

Dr. Emile BIENVENU
Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Research
University of Rwanda

