

SARChI Chair in Higher Education and Human Development Research Programme

Researching well-being, agency and structures of inequalities

DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

BACKGROUND

The SARChI Chair in Higher Education and Human Development Research Programme (HEHD) at the University of the Free State invites applications from suitably qualified, highly motivated and talented candidates for doctoral fellowships. Candidates interested in pursuing an academic career in higher education studies or higher education and development are especially encouraged to apply. We conduct theoretical and empirical research into human development applied to the challenges of social justice in higher education and development, in collaboration with international partners. Under the leadership of Professor Melanie Walker, SARChI Chair in Higher Education and Human Development, HEHDF undertakes a suite of mixed methods research projects and graduate research.

Ideally, Doctoral Research Fellows will have an interest and expertise at Masters or Honours level in education and development, development studies, higher education studies or a related discipline such as education policy, diversity studies, philosophy, historical studies, political science, sociology or social psychology. The fellowship will enable an outstanding doctoral student to obtain experience of research and innovation with a vibrant education research group. A small number of fellowships are awarded on a competitive basis, taking into account the applicants' academic achievements, publications and research potential, as well as the relevance of prior experience. The fellowship is available for three-years, subject to satisfactory performance for the title registration of the Fellow's doctoral study.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The Fellowship is open to all South African and foreign nationals for full-time research at the University of the Free State. Prospective Fellow's need to meet the following criteria: 1. Graduated with a Master's degree in a relevant discipline within the last five years and a minimum average grade of 70%. 2. Successful applicants may not hold full-time salaried employment during the fellowship. 3. Successful applicants must be able to relocate to the UFS for the duration of the fellowship. This is a residential fellowship: the successful applicant is required to spend 80% of her/his doctoral period at the UFS. 4. Applicants will be required to complete the online TALPS test prior to being offered a place. 5. Applicants may also need to provide a SAQA verification certificate.

THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE WILL BE REQUIRED TO: 1. Conduct rigorous doctoral research on human development and higher education. 2. Author/co-author at least one (1) publication over the three years in the form of a DHET-accredited scholarly journal article or chapter in a book. The renewal of the fellowship beyond the first year depends on title registration and satisfactory progress. 3. Register and reside as a doctoral research fellow at the UFS and participate in relevant HEHD activities and the School of Postgraduate Studies 4. Participate in research training, master classes and Seminars. 5. Draft chapters and meet regularly with his/her supervisor. 6. Present papers at relevant local and international scholarly conferences and present at seminars and workshops.

TO APPLY

Please email the following documentation to Prof Melanie Walker, Email: walkermj@ufs.ac.za 1. Motivation letter 2. A 4-6 page outline of your proposed doctoral research 3. Full CV including any research publications, conference papers and grants 4. Full transcripts of academic record and copy of Master's degree certificate 5. Copy of ID document (or copy of passport in the case of foreign applicants) 6. Contact details of two academic referees who have taught/supervised the candidate. Please include "Doctoral Fellowship HEHD" in your subject line.

VALUE OF THE FELLOWSHIP

R 180,000 annual fellowship (Note that registration fees are deducted annually) including R 30,000 for research expenses fund.

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