1 Advertisement

Post title: Research Fellow in Health and Social Science  
School/department: Brighton and Sussex Medical School, Department of Global Health & Infection (GHI)  
Hours: full time or part time hours considered up to a maximum of 1.0 FTE. Requests for flexible working options will be considered (subject to business need).  
Contract: Fixed term until August 2023  
Reference: 2793  
Salary: starting at £33,797 and rising to £40,322 per annum (pro rata if applicable)  
Placed on: 22 November 2019  
Closing date: 9 January 2020  
Expected start date: as soon as possible

The Global Health and Infection (GHI) team at BSMS are looking for a UK-based postdoctoral researcher to support health and social science research as part of a project based within the Social Science for Stigmatising Skin Diseases (5-S) Foundation.

This project aims to end neglect of three stigmatising skin diseases (podoconiosis, mycetoma and scabies) through bringing the social sciences to bear on these conditions in our DAC-listed partner countries: Ethiopia, Sudan and Rwanda. Our research will transform the health and wellbeing of people affected by these conditions by identifying interventions informed by social science perspectives at the level of the patient, the community and national and international policy.

The post holder will work particularly on policy relevant to the three target NTDs at national and global level as well as historical dimensions of NTDS.

The successful applicant will have:
- A PhD (or equivalent experience) in Medical Anthropology/Medical Sociology or another social science in a health-related area with strong qualitative/ethnographic research skills
- Experience in conducting health policy research
- Research experience in low income countries, preferably in Africa
- Excellent organisational and communication skills
- The ability to work effectively in a multidisciplinary team

For more information on GHI see: https://www.bsms.ac.uk/research/global-health-and-infection/index.aspx

For any further information and informal inquiry please contact: Prof Gail Davey (g.davey@bsms.ac.uk) or Dr Shahaduz Zaman (s.zaman@bsms.ac.uk)

For full details and how to apply see:

www.sussex.ac.uk/jobs  
www.brighton.ac.uk/jobs
The Universities of Brighton and Sussex are committed to equality and valuing diversity, and applications are particularly welcomed from women and black and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts in science, mathematics, medicine and engineering at the universities.

2. Senior leadership and management

The Vice-Chancellor (Professor Adam Tickell) is the senior academic officer and, as Chief Executive, is responsible to the University Council for management of the University. He is supported by an executive group, which includes the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, the three Pro-Vice-Chancellors, the Chief Operating Officer, the Director of Finance and the Director of Human Resources. The Heads of the Schools of Studies at Sussex report to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

The Chief Operating Officer heads the Professional Services of the University. In addition, under the University Statutes, the Chief Operating Officer is Secretary to the University Council. The Director of Finance reports to the Vice-Chancellor, the Director of ITS and the Librarian report to the Chief Operating Officer.

3. Brighton and Sussex Medical School and partners

Brighton and Sussex Medical School is an equal partnership between the Universities of Sussex and Brighton together with NHS organisations throughout the South East region. Find out more at: bsms.ac.uk/about

The University of Sussex is a leading research-intensive university near Brighton, currently ranked top 20 in all major league tables. Find out more: http://www.sussex.ac.uk/about/

The University of Brighton is a complex and diverse institution with a long and distinguished history of applied research. Find out more: brighton.ac.uk/about-us/

Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals Trust is the regional teaching hospital working across two sites: the Royal Sussex County Hospital in Brighton and the Princess Royal Hospital in Haywards Heath. Find out more: bsuhs.nhs.uk/about-us/

Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust specialises in working with people who are experiencing mental health difficulties and those with learning disabilities, across Sussex, Kent and Hampshire. Find out more: sussexpartnership.nhs.uk/about-us
4. Job Description

Job Title: Research Fellow in Health and Social Science
Grade: Research Fellow I, Grade 7
School: Brighton and Sussex Medical School
Location: University of Sussex campus
Responsible to: Principal Investigator through to Head of School
Direct reports: n/a
Key contacts: Members of research group, members of faculty within the Department, School and University.

Role description: Research Fellow I is an early career-grade research position. Post-holders will be expected to contribute to the work of the research team, and also to develop their research skills with support from more experienced members of staff.

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. To engage in individual and/or collaborative research activity resulting in high quality publications; and to develop research funding and knowledge exchange income individually or in collaboration with others, as appropriate, depending on the size and scope of the bid.

2. To contribute to School teaching activities.

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The post holder will work particularly on the analysis of policy relevant to the three target NTDs at national and global level as well as historical dimensions of NTDS.

For more information on GHI see: https://www.bsms.ac.uk/research/global-health-and-infection/index.aspx

Global Health at BSMS

Global Health is a cross-cutting theme at BSMS which has been highlighted as a key strength for development in our strategic plan. We work in close partnership with our parent universities (Brighton and Sussex) to develop novel opportunities for teaching and research, a good example of which is the MSc in Global Health. Important Global Health issues permeate the undergraduate curriculum and students get plenty of opportunity to develop their interest through student selected components, individual research projects and the clinical elective.
BSMS has a vibrant Global Health research programme with academic links around the world. Taking a multidisciplinary approach, we work on important health problems including neglected tropical diseases, tuberculosis and non-communicable diseases in low-income settings. BSMS has an active Postgraduate Training Programme and is committed to supporting higher research training in Global Health areas. The department of Global Health and Infection hosts a Wellcome Trust Centre for Global Health Research and an NIHR Global Health Research Unit, allowing us to expand our research profile and in turn our contribution towards improving the health of disadvantaged groups around the world, working particularly in partnership with colleagues in sub-Saharan African countries. Global Health research activities extend across the School into wide-ranging disciplines including Biomedical Ethics, Psychiatry and Public Health. Opportunities to collaborate with colleagues from other Schools at both Brighton and Sussex Universities and at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) are facilitated through a Global Health Network that meets regularly. We also work in partnership with community organisations and non-governmental organisations working in global health, many of which are based locally.

**KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. **Role-specific duties**

1.1 In close collaboration with the GHI team and counterparts, co-ordinate research deliverables including the analysis of policy relevant to the three target NTDs at national and global levels, and research on the history of these diseases

1.2 Provide technical and conceptual support to a PhD project on social, cultural and political dimensions of NTDs in three partner countries.

1.3 Contribute more broadly to health and social science capacity development in our project partner countries - Rwanda, Sudan and Ethiopia.

2. **Research, Scholarship & Enterprise**

2.1 Develop research objectives and proposals for own or joint research, at acceptable levels, with assistance if required.

2.2 Conduct research projects individually and in collaboration with others.

2.3 Analyse and interpret research findings and draw conclusions from the outcomes

2.4 Produce high-quality research outputs for publication in monographs or recognised high-quality journals, or performance/exhibition, as appropriate, and contribute to the School’s REF submission at acceptable levels of volume and academic excellence.

2.5 Contribute to the preparation of proposals and applications to external bodies, for example for funding purposes.

2.6 Individually or with colleagues, explore opportunities for enterprise activity, knowledge exchange income and/or consultancy, where permissible.
2.7 Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks and relevant external networks in order to form relationships and collaborations.

2.8 Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism, and engage in continuous professional development.

3. Teaching & Student Support

3.1 Undertake teaching duties, if required.

3.2 Assist in the assessment of student knowledge and supervision of student projects, if required.

3.3 Assist in the development of student research skills, for example as part of a postgraduate supervision team.

4. Contribution to School & University

4.1 Attend and contribute to relevant School and project meetings.

4.2 Undertake additional duties, as required by the Principal Investigator and/or Head of School.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA
1. A PhD (or equivalent experience) in Medical Anthropology/Medical Sociology or another social science in a health-related area with strong qualitative / ethnographic research skills
2. Research experience in low income countries, preferably in Africa
3. Experience in health policy research
4. Evidence of engagement in high-quality research activity
5. Excellent presentation skills, with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.
6. Ability to work individually on own initiative and without close supervision, and as part of a team.
7. Ability to exercise a degree of innovation and creative problem-solving. Excellent organisational and administrative skills
8. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.
9. Excellent IT skills.
10. Willingness to travel to Rwanda, Sudan and Ethiopia

DESIRABLE CRITERIA
1. Experience in research in history of medicine
2. Emerging track record of high-quality publications in reputable journals and other appropriate media of similar standing.
3. Experience of generating research or knowledge exchange income.
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<th>Skills and abilities</th>
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<tr>
<td>Strong qualitative/ethnographic research skills.</td>
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<td>Ability to work as part of an international team.</td>
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<td>Excellent academic and copy writing skills</td>
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<td>Ability to supervise graduate students</td>
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<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
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<td>Knowledge of neglected tropical diseases</td>
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<th>Personal Attributes</th>
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<td>Collaborative style of working</td>
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<td>Ability to spend periods of time working in Rwanda, Ethiopia or Sudan</td>
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