

Post-doctoral Research Fellow/Research Assistant
Department of Geography and Department of Urban and Regional Planning
University of the Free State (South Africa) – Bloemfontein Campus

Duration: 29 months

Start date: 3 January 2017 (negotiable)

Remuneration: R200 000 per annum (tax free and paid pro-rata)

Location: University of the Free State Campus, Bloemfontein, South Africa

Project: ESRC/NRF Higher Education Initiative

The Department of Urban and Regional Planning and Department of Geography at the University of the Free State (South Africa) along with the School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of Birmingham (United Kingdom) have jointly been awarded a grant by the ESRC and NRF to assess the appropriateness, usefulness and impact of current urban planning curriculum in South African Higher Education.

This research will be the first comprehensive study which aims to deconstruct the South African urban planning curriculum at undergraduate and postgraduate level, in order to draw broader lessons for Africa and the UK. It is positioned at the crossover of urban planning and geography and has been developed in the close partnership with the two planning accreditation bodies, SACPLAN in SA and RTPi in the UK.

We are looking for a self-motivated, organised and committed person to handle some of the administrative and research related tasks of this project.

Requirements:

- Minimum qualification – PhD Urban and Regional Planning from a recognised Higher Education Institution. We will also consider applicants with a Masters (including students completing their degree by the end of January 2017) in Urban and Regional Planning.
- An average mark of 70% or higher for completed postgraduate courses/degrees.
- Willingness to travel occasionally within South Africa and to the United Kingdom over the course of the project
- Basic Excel, Word and PowerPoint skills
- Ability to work independently and take initiative
- Good organisational and time management skills
- Good English language and writing skills
- A valid passport (can be arranged after appointment)

Tasks:

- Support the Project leaders with various administrative and research related tasks
- Oversee data collection and analysis
- Liaise with UK and South African project partners daily
- Assistance with workshops, meetings and research/data gathering

To apply please send your full CV and a motivation letter via email to Dr Ruth Massey (masseyrt@ufs.ac.za) by the 9th of December 2017.

Please note that we will not pay travel costs to Bloemfontein for potential interviews for the post.

Further information/queries contact:

Dr Ruth Massey

Department of Geography

University of the Free State

masseyrt@ufs.ac.za

Please note that you will not qualify for any employee benefits, including retirement funding, membership of retirement funds, support in respect of a medical aid scheme or any for other employee benefits. This does not preclude you from performing temporary tasks for remuneration, for example conducting ad hoc tutorials or marking examination scripts in a similar manner as other postgraduate students. That remuneration however would be taxable on the same basis as that paid to other part-time employees for services rendered.

You must apply for the appropriate visas/work permits yourself and at your own cost.