



CALL FOR PROPOSALS:

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP (2019-2020)

Issued by the Centre for Transport Studies (University of Cape Town)

August 2019

1 PURPOSE

The Centre for Transport Studies (CfTS) is a multidisciplinary research and postgraduate teaching body based in the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Cape Town (UCT). The Centre's objective is to be an internationally recognised body that produces relevant research, develops skilled professionals, and advocates innovative practices and institutional arrangements for the management of complex transport systems in the dynamic cities of South Africa and other African nations. The Centre's priorities in undertaking research are to contribute to the equitable, efficient and safe accommodation of the travel needs of poorer households within urban passenger transport systems, and to the promotion of more efficient and sustainable travel behaviour patterns and transport system operations. (More information on the CfTS can be found at: <http://www.cfts.uct.ac.za/>.)

Following a successful accreditation review in 2017, the UCT University Research Committee has awarded the CfTS funding to support a two-year postdoctoral research fellowship.

The postdoctoral fellowship will enable a welcomed strengthening of the CfTS's research capacity. The permissible scope of the postdoctoral research is broad, but will need to be consistent with the Centre's objectives and priorities (listed above) and resonate with the Centre's existing research agenda so that interaction with staff and postgraduate researchers is possible (see <http://www.cfts.uct.ac.za/cfts/people/people>).

2 CALL FOR APPLICATION

This proposal call serves to invite applications from suitably qualified candidates.

The successful candidate will conduct the research in the CfTS, and will work closely with academics.

The successful candidate will drive the research project, and be the lead author of resulting research publications. He/she will receive strategic guidance from the staff of the CfTS, and will report progress and be accountable to the Director of the Centre.

The successful candidate may, as part of his/her professional development, be invited to participate in departmental activities such as limited teaching and student co-supervision.

3 CONDITIONS OF AWARD

The following general conditions of the fellowship award will apply:

- postdoctoral research fellowships are only available to individuals who have achieved their doctoral degree within the past five years, or who are in the process of having, or are about to have, their doctoral thesis examined;
- applicants may not previously have held full-time permanent professional or academic posts;
- the fellowship is granted with no additional benefits or allowances; and
- the successful incumbent will be required to comply with the University's approved policies, procedures and practices for the postdoctoral sector (see <http://www.uct.ac.za/main/research/postdoc-research-fellowships>).

4 VALUE AND TENURE OF THE FELLOWSHIP

The postdoctoral fellowship is to the value of ZAR 205,000 (~USD 14,500) per year. Relocation expenses are excluded and are at own expense. An additional ZAR 15,000 (~USD 1,100) will be available annually for conference attendance upon successful motivation. The fellowship is compliant with the South African Revenue Service policies and rules, and is therefore exempt from taxation.

The fellowship will be awarded in 2019, and renewable for a *pro rata* period of two years from the date of commencement, subject to evidence of satisfactory academic progress and a positive progress report. The value of the fellowship will not increase in subsequent years. Fellowships are administered by the UCT Postgraduate Funding Office according to the approved rules and regulations of the University.

5 ACADEMIC CRITERIA

As indicated above, the fellowship is only available to individuals who have achieved their doctoral degree within the past five years, or who are in the process of having, or are about to have, their doctoral thesis examined.

If the candidate has not yet obtained the PhD, note that the fellowship can start only once official confirmation has been received that the thesis is under examination. If the PhD degree is not conferred on the applicant, the fellowship will be cancelled.

The successful applicant must be available to commence with the fellowship before the end of 2019.

6 APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

All applications should include:

- a letter of application, including an indication of areas of expertise, research interests, and experience;
- a short research project proposal (not exceeding ~2,000 words), which summarises the research questions to be addressed, the anticipated method of investigation, and the implications of the research method for data collection and analysis resources;
- a curriculum vitae including a list of publications and other scholarly output;
- copies (or certified copies) of academic transcripts; and
- either names (and contact details), or letters of reference, from at least two academics who have taught, supervised or worked alongside the applicant.

Applicants should submit the above, via email, to roger.behrens@uct.ac.za by **30 September 2019**.

7 SELECTION PROCESS

The successful candidate will be selected by the Director and a selection committee comprised of the academic staff of the CfTS, on the basis of the merits of the research project proposal, reference reports, and the strength of academic performance in prior degrees.

Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed (in person or via skype).

The University of Cape Town reserves the right to:

- *disqualify ineligible, incomplete and/or inappropriate applications; and*
- *change the conditions of award or to make no awards at all.*