



Postdoctoral Research Fellowship
LAW, SCIENCE AND JUSTICE
2018
Faculty of Law, University of Fort Hare, South Africa

Scope of Research

Applications are invited for two Postdoctoral Research Fellowships, to work in the Research Niche Area of “Law, Science and Justice”, which is hosted by the Faculty of Law and supported by the Govan Mbeki Research and Development Centre at the University of Fort Hare. Law, Science and Justice is the exciting new Research Niche Area at the University of Fort Hare. This RNA explores the many connections between law and science, technology and evidence.

The focus of the Research Niche Area is to explore the many connections between law, science and justice for the purpose of meeting the global challenges that face South Africa to-day and to create new knowledge at the interface between different disciplines by using a trans-disciplinary approach.

The intersection of Science and Law provides new tools and methodologies for discovering manifestations of truth. Forensic law is a broad term that covers all areas of science and social sciences pertaining to the law, and in general refers to the use of science in litigation. Forensic law also includes the business of providing accurate, timely, and thorough information to all levels of decision makers in our criminal justice system. The word “forensic” is derived from the Latin word “forensis” which means forum, a public place where, in Roman times, senators and others debated and held judicial proceedings. The forensic discipline is inherently multidisciplinary and applied in nature and addresses all aspects of the forensic process.

The activities of the niche area Law, Science and Justice specifically focuses on researching areas at the intersection of law and science by using inter-multi- and transdisciplinary approaches in seeking internationally competitive solutions to many of the issues confronting a developing democracy in Africa.

The activities of the Law, Science and Justice Research Niche Area set out to produce research outcomes that can assist the South African legal system to anticipate, react to and regulate modern day science and technology specifically in attaining safe and secure communities. The RNA also supports scientific research and innovation with the aim to produce an increased number of highly skilled individuals in this field. The Law, Science and Justice RNA introduces inter-linked and trans-disciplinary focal areas for theoretical, applied and strategic research explorations in the field of LAW, FORENSIC SCIENCE, SAFETY AND SECURITY

The Post-Doctoral Fellow will be expected to produce collaborative and individual research in the relevant field of inquiry (to write research papers on topics tackled by the research area (4 publications per year) and to disseminate research, for instance, at conferences) and to contribute to the project in other ways, for example, by helping to supervise Postgraduate students and to organise seminars and conferences.

Minimum Requirements

- A PhD/LLD in Law
- Publication track record
- Ability to work in a transdisciplinary context
- Ability to work independently and develop projects and undertake research
- Excellent social and team working skills
- Fluency in written and spoken English

Application Details

The value of the fellowship is R 250,000.00 (not taxed)

The duration of the fellowship is 12 months and should start in December 2017

The closing date for applications is 16 September 2017

Send a letter of application, accompanied by:

- The Title and Abstract of your doctoral thesis;
- A certified copy of your PhD or LLD degree certificate;
- A copy of your Identity Document;
- A comprehensive curriculum vitae including list of publications
- Writing sample
- Indication of proposed research (300-500 words)
- **Completion of Form PG03**

Application forms must be submitted to the Faculty Prof Lirieka Meintjes-van der Walt imeintjes-vanderwalt@ufh.ac.za and the Research Manager, Tarisai Chikungwa, GMRDC, University of Fort Hare TChikungwa@ufh.ac.za tel: 040-6022177, E-fax: 086 620 7721.