



# Postdoctoral Fellowship Epidemic Ethics

## (2-year position, ZAR320.000)

### Department of Medicine

The UCT Department of Medicine seeks to appoint a two-year Postdoctoral Fellow in Epidemic Ethics and invites applications from suitably qualified candidates for appointment as soon as possible. The Postdoctoral Fellow will be part of the Epidemic Ethics Network (<https://epidemicethics.tghn.org>) which aims to develop a global community of bioethicists building on pre-existing expertise and resources to provide real-time, trusted, contextual support to communities, policy makers, researchers, and responders in relation to the ethical issues arising out of global health emergencies, with a current focus on the COVID-19 pandemic. The postdoc will form part of a group of four postdocs based in Asia, Africa, South America and Europe. The Epidemics Ethics Network is led by the World Health Organization and currently hosted by the University of Oxford. The fellow will be appointed at UCT but will have an affiliation with the Ethox Centre at the University of Oxford and have access to mentorship by senior members of the Epidemic Ethics network.

The Postdoctoral Fellow will:

- Undertake individual and collaborative normative and/or empirical research projects on topics agreed with the Epidemics Ethics steering group;
- Work with the Epidemics Ethics team to respond to requests for ethics support and advice from across the Epidemics Ethics network;
- Work with the other postdocs and the Epidemic Ethics team to prepare and post digital resources on the Epidemic Ethics website;
- Organise regional engagement activities on relevant ethical issues with the support of the Epidemics Ethics network and WHO;
- Regularly co-author papers on Epidemics Ethics priority areas and lead or collaborate in the preparation of funding applications.

For this opportunity, we are looking for an African national with a PhD degree and a track record of academic publications on topics in bioethics. Preference would be for a candidate with experience in public health ethics. The incumbent should: have excellent interpersonal skills, be able to build productive relationships and partnerships within and beyond the Network; have excellent writing skills and attention to detail; and a proven ability to write for publication and present research findings and results at meetings.

#### Requirements:

- A relevant PhD degree obtained in the last 5 years;
- Track record of academic publications on bioethics led by the incumbent;
- Willingness to learn about the ethical challenges in pandemics.

#### Conditions

The Postdoctoral Fellow will be registered as a fulltime Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Cape Town and will be in receipt of a stipend for the amount of ZAR320.000. Tax-free status will be arranged with SARS. The candidate may not previously have held full-time permanent professional or academic posts. The successful incumbent will be required to comply with the University's approved policies, procedures and practices for the postdoctoral sector. If required, the incumbent will be responsible for obtaining a valid visa to take up the position. The post-holder will report to Dr Jantina de Vries and be co-supervised by Dr Susan Bull, the Epidemics Ethics Programme Manager.

#### Application Process

Please contact Dr Jantina de Vries ([jantina.devries@uct.ac.za](mailto:jantina.devries@uct.ac.za)) for questions about this position or to apply. All applications should include in a **single pdf**:

- 1) a letter of motivation;
- 2) a CV including a list of publications or other relevant scholarly output;
- 3) copies of academic transcripts;
- 4) either the names and contact details OR letters of reference from at least two academics who have taught, supervised or worked alongside the applicant during their university training.

Applications can be submitted electronically to Dr Jantina de Vries ([jantina.devries@uct.ac.za](mailto:jantina.devries@uct.ac.za)) **with the subject title "Epidemic Ethics Postdoctoral Fellowship application"** on or before 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2021. Applications should be cc'd to Dinnah Rippon ([dinnah.rippon@ethox.ox.ac.uk](mailto:dinnah.rippon@ethox.ox.ac.uk)) and Dr Susan Bull ([susan.bull@ethox.ox.ac.uk](mailto:susan.bull@ethox.ox.ac.uk)). A confirmation of receipt will be sent to the applicant's email address within a week of application. If no confirmation is received within this time then please contact Dr. Jantina de Vries to ensure the application was received.

#### Selection process:

A Selection Committee will screen and rank applications.

**Email is the preferred mode of communication.**

**An application which does not comply with the above requirements will be regarded as incomplete and will not be considered. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.**

**Address:** UCT Department of Medicine, Grootte Schuur Hospital, J52, Observatory, Cape Town, 7925

**Telephone:** +27 21 650 5716

**Website:** [www.health.uct.ac.za/departments/medicine](http://www.health.uct.ac.za/departments/medicine)

**Closing date:** 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

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