



Postdoctoral Fellowship

Communication (1)

RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT &
POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

16/10/2020

MEETING

Information with regards to the previously held engagement session

Date: 29 October 2020

Time: 14:00 – 16:00

Via: Zoom (link will be shared via Outlook Calendar)

Agenda items to be submitted to Ms. Cecilé Olivier (olivierc@cut.ac.za) by 16 October 2020.

WEBINAR

Introduction to Postdoctoral Research at CUT

The Research Office was excited to host the first Postdoctoral Fellowship webinar. The aim of the webinar was to give the postdoctoral fellows the opportunity to engage with the CUT community and present their research.

Date: 18 November 2020

Time: 14:00 – 17:00

Via: Zoom

More information regarding the event was shared.

Quarterly meeting convened online due to Covid-19

Quarterly Postdoctoral Fellowship Meeting: Addressing Challenges and Improving Fellowships

The first postdoctoral meeting was held on 6 August 2020. The purpose of the meeting was to engage with postdoctoral fellows, their mentors and respective stakeholders, including the DVC: RIE, Deans, Assistant Deans: RIE, Research Development and Postgraduate Studies, the HR and Finance Sections. During the meeting the challenges faced by the postdoctoral fellows were addressed.

Ms. Cecilé Olivier presented a summative overview whereby she focused on the following:

- Funding Applications;
- Research Outputs; and
- Postgraduate Supervision.

The meeting further unpacked the matters such as:

- Mid-term – and Summative Reports. Templates are drafted and has been circulated accordingly.
- Career planning and the continuation of the relationship depends on the faculties.
- Awarding of postdoctoral fellowships and information sharing with the Research Office. The scholarship was discussed in detail, explaining the roles of the different stakeholders and why information sharing is important.

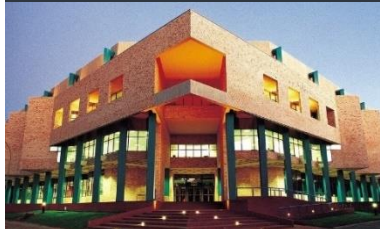
In conclusion, the Research Office and the Faculties commit to provide continuous support to the fellows. The Research Office also commits to professionalising the programme. This will contribute to more funding applications and the alignment with the Research Centres.

Postdoctoral Profile

Reporting period: June 2019 – July 2020

- Total value of the award: R 5 383 271
- Total number of postdoctoral fellows: 18
 - Track 1: 13 (Full-time)
 - Track 2: 5 (Part-time)
- Number of universities our postdocs graduated from: 11
 - 4 x International Universities
 - 7 x National Universities
- Gender breakdown:
 - 6 x Female
 - 12 x Male





Information Sharing

A database for the postdoctoral fellows was formulated, which contains information of postdoctoral fellows at CUT since 2001.

For the past 19 years (2001 - 2020) CUT had 49 postdoctoral fellows.

There are currently 13 postdoctoral fellows. In Track 1 there are 11 postdoctoral fellows and in Track 2, there are 2 postdoctoral fellows.

In a next edition, more information will be shared on the postdoctoral fellows since 2001.

Contact Us

For any additional information regarding the postdoctoral fellowship, as well as the current fellows employed at CUT please contact:

Ms. Cecilé Olivier
olivierc@cut.ac.za
(051) 507 4323

The important role of postdoctoral fellows

The University is eager to grow its research capacity, relevance and competitiveness with the support of postdoctoral fellows. Postdoctoral fellows are globally regarded as emerging researchers growing their research expertise and competencies to become researchers in own right.

ABOUT POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS AT THE CUT

- A postdoctoral fellow is funded through a bursary of a grant.
- Postdoctoral fellowships are within recognised research activities of Research Centres.
- A postdoctoral fellow from an international university can hold the fellowship between three - twelve months in a twelve-month cycle.
- A postdoctoral fellow will be mentored by an established researcher who has successfully completed research projects, published research articles, supervised doctoral students and who is the holder of competitive research funds.

PURPOSE

Postdoctoral fellows have to do research, publish research results in accredited journals, act as supervisor/co-supervisor for postgraduate students and develop their research programme into an externally funded research niche area.

TRACK 1 & TRACK 2

Track 1: Full-time postdoctoral fellows are funded through a recognised bursary or grant for a maximum of three-years (3 x twelve-month cycles).

Track 2: Students who completed a Doctoral Degree at CUT who are employed full-time outside CUT can apply for a part-time postdoctoral fellowship to continue with their research on a part-time basis.

CAREER PLANNING – THE ABC MODEL FOR POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

A = 1st Year of the postdoctoral fellowship:

- Preparatory year
- Start settling in and apply for funding.
- Publish from your PhD.

B = 2nd Year of the postdoctoral fellowship:

- Engagement year
- Gaining knowledge and expanding expertise through close engagement with your mentor.
- Becoming a researcher or academic.

C = 3rd Year of the postdoctoral fellowship:

- Continuation period
- The fellow starts with his/her own project.
- The fellow is competitive in terms of funding applications and opportunities outside the university.
- Exiting the fellowship and entering academia, business or industry.