VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT AMSTERDAM - NRF SOUTH AFRICA

DESMOND TUTU DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP

2016 CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The Desmond Tutu Doctoral Training Programme (DTTP) was established in honour of Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu’s lifetime struggle against inequality and his quest for reconciliation. The National Research Foundation (NRF) and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VUA) entered into a partnership in 2009 to co-fund South African students carrying out doctoral studies in a Joint Degree (split-site) mode.

Aims of the DTTP

The rationale of the DTTP is that VUA joins forces with its South African partners, to build human capital in selected research fields that are of mutual interest. The DTTP also aims to strengthen co-operation between VUA and South African partner universities through joint supervision of South African doctoral candidates. At VUA, the supervision is carried out by the Desmond Tutu Chairs as well as other Faculty staff whose research interests are aligned with the objectives and the of the programme. Bridging Diversities for Academic Advancement’ is the overarching theme of the DTTP. The aim is to contribute to a more equal world by integral thinking in which diversities are considered enriching rather than threatening. Bridging diversities means making connections: the programme stands for dialogue and engaged scholarship. Research undertaken in this programme aims to provide a safe space for thinking through the ambiguities and paradoxes of diversities. The theme is conceptualised with an aspiration to make a difference to society and ‘academic advancement’ is understood as relevant to, and serving the improvement of society.

Available research projects for this call:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>VU Supervisor</th>
<th>SA Supervisor</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Faculty of Theology</td>
<td>‘Towards a theology of Forgiveness 2.0’</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Eddy van der Borght</td>
<td>Not specified yet</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Faculty of Economy and Business Administration</td>
<td>‘Local Economic Inequality in South Africa’</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Chris Elbers</td>
<td>Prof. Murray Leibbrandt, UCT</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Faculty of Social Sciences</td>
<td>‘Sex on the move: mobile and migrant clients of sex workers in South Africa’</td>
<td>Dr. Lorraine Nencel</td>
<td>Prof. Jo Vearey, WITS</td>
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<td>No.</td>
<td>Faculty</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Faculty of Social Sciences</td>
<td>'Decentralization of disaster response in South Africa: towards strengthening local resilience'</td>
<td>Dr. Kees Boersma, Dr. Julie Ferguson, Prof. Dr. Peter Groenewegen, Prof. Andries Jordaan, UFS</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Faculty of Social Sciences</td>
<td>‘Hostile media perceptions? Understanding the mass Media’s role on polarization and group conflict in South Africa’</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Tilo Hartmann, Prof. Dr. Linda Gail-Bekker, UNISA</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Faculty of Medicine</td>
<td>'Giving children a chance to live'</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Marceline van Furth, Prof. Dr. Francesco Petruccione, UCT</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Faculty of Sciences</td>
<td>‘Energy and charge transfer processes in photosynthesis’</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Rienk van Grondelle, Prof. Dr. Etienne Barnard, NWU</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Faculty of Sciences</td>
<td>'Creating Web and Voice Services in Multiple Languages for Rural Development in Africa'</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Hans Akkermans, Prof. van Rensburg and Dr. Spies, NWU</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Faculty of Behavioural and Movement Sciences</td>
<td>'Attachment, self-concept and exploration, can they be enhanced in at-risk families with young children'</td>
<td>Dr. Paula Sterkenburg, Prof. van Rensburg and Dr. Spies, NWU</td>
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The format of the Programme is a sandwich programme in which students will:

- Register and obtain their research doctoral degrees in the form of a Joint Degree between VU Amsterdam and a partner South African Higher Education Institution;
- Be jointly supervised by academic researchers at VUA and a South African Higher Education Institution;
- If required, complete required course work for doctoral studies both in South Africa and in the Netherlands;
- Spend between one (1) and two (2) months per year over a period of four (4) years at VUA to undertake course and thesis related work, if necessary with an additional stay of six (6) months maximum in Amsterdam in the final year of their studies; and
- Carry out their research in South Africa, with a restricted amount of teaching obligations (where applicable) on the basis of an agreement between the NRF and the employing South African Higher Education Institution.

**How to apply**

Applications must be submitted electronically to the NRF on the NRF Online Submission System at [https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za](https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za).
· Register/Login using the number you have registered with, ie your passport or Identity (ID) number and password.

· Select “My Applications”.

· Select “Create Application”.

· Select the call for which you are applying: **VU University Amsterdam – NRF Desmond Tutu Doctoral Programme 2016**

· Select “Apply now”.

· Complete all compulsory sections of the application form and the non-compulsory sections which are applicable to you (CV sections).

· Remember to submit your application on completion.

· Incomplete applications will not be considered.
· Applications that do not meet the eligibility criteria will not be considered.
· Ensure that the contact details, including email addresses of at least two (2) referees, are part of the application.

**Call opens: 1 March 2016 and closes on 22 April 2016.**

**Where can I obtain more information?**

**For funding instrument related queries:**

Ms Gugu Dube, Professional Officer: Human and Infrastructure Capacity Development, Telephone: 012 481 4169, Email: gugu.dube@nrf.ac.za

**For Grant Management Systems and Administration related queries:**

Ms Onicca Motsepe, Liaison Officer: Scholarships and Fellowships, Telephone: 012 418 4112, Email: onicca@nrf.ac.za

**For Reviews and Evaluation related queries:**

Mr Sam Sibiya, Professional Officer: Reviews and Evaluations, Telephone: 012 481 4307, Email: sam.sibiya@nrf.ac.za