**NRF / DST South African Research Chairs Initiative**

The Minister of Science and Technology, Ms Naledi Pandor, has recently approved funding for 23 new Research Chairs as follows. **Each institution may put forward FIVE names only, by 15 January 2015**.

1. **South African Research Chairs**

There are 20 positions available country-wide for South African based candidates. **All of the candidates must be South African women who are *bona fide* citizens or in possession of permanent residence status**.

Applications are invited in the following areas.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Research Discipline**  | **Number of Chairs**  |
| *South African Research Chairs*  |
| Climate Change and Energy Policy  | 1  |
| Global Change Social Learning Systems  | 1  |
| Indigenous Knowledge Systems  | 1  |
| Industrial Biotechnology for Transformative Biomass Valorisation (in partnership with the Sugar Milling Industry)  | 1  |
| Sanitary and Phytosanitary Risk Management (in partnership with the Animal Health Cluster)  | 1  |
| Open categories  | 15  |

1. **SA-UK Bilateral Research Chairs**

The NRF has entered into an agreement with the Newton Fund in order to build on the existing friendly and co-operative relationship between South Africa and the United Kingdom. Three positions are available for the SA-UK Bilateral Research Chairs. These Chairs will be funded in partnership with the British Council, a delivery partner of the Newton Fund. The broad objectives of the SA – UK Research Chairs are to strengthen research and innovation capacities at the highest scientific level in selected research domains; and promote international exchange and cooperation with scientists in the United Kingdom. **There are no restrictions on the gender and citizenship status of the candidates. However, the candidate must be based in a UK institution and be able to spend 50% of his/her time in both countries for the duration of the Chair term**.

 The following areas have been identified.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Research Discipline**  | **Number of Chairs**  |
| *SA-UK Bilateral Research Chairs*  |
| Food Security; Energy; Water  | 3  |

**CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

Faculty Deans have been asked to submit no more than **TWO nominations** for any of the above Chairs to the central Research Office.

**The Faculty of Health Sciences invites expressions of interest from eligible candidates:**

**Deadline: 9am on Monday 5 January 2015**

**Submit by email to: Professor Denver Hendricks (denver.hendricks@uct.ac.za)**

A Faculty shortlist will be drawn up for submission to the Research Office.

Criteria for these candidates are:

**South African Research Chairs**

* Female (and preferably black) South African researchers (citizens or permanent residents) at either an Associate Professor level for a Tier II Chair or Professor level for a Tier I Chair.

**SA-UK Bilateral Research Chairs**

* Any candidate with international standing who must be based in a UK institution and be able to spend 50% of his/her time in each country for the duration of the Chair term.

In addition, the candidates for the South African Research Chairs must meet the criteria for either a Tier I or Tier II Chair as listed below and the candidates for the SA-UK Bilateral Research Chairs should meet the criteria for the Tier I Chair only except for the last bullet point.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Tier I Research Chairs**  | **Tier 2 Research Chairs**  |
| * Should be appointed at the level of a full Professor benchmarked nationally;
* Should be an outstanding and innovative researcher whose accomplishments have made a major impact in their field;
* Should be recognised internationally as an undisputed leader in their field and/or have received substantial international recognition for their research contributions;
* Should have a superior record in attracting and supervising post graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, taking into account the practices of the field; and
* Should reside full time in South Africa for the duration of the Research Chair award. Candidates from abroad, including African scholars and South Africans in the diaspora, that are willing to spend at least spend 50% of their time within South Africa are eligible for consideration. [[1]](#footnote-1)
 | * Should be appointed at the level of an Associate Professor or full Professor benchmarked nationally;
* Should be an established researcher, generally under the age of 40 (forty) years, with a strong research, innovation and human capital development output trajectory;
* Should have the potential to achieve substantial international recognition for their research contributions in the next five to ten years;
* Should have demonstrated the ability to attract and successfully supervise postgraduate students and postdoctoral fellows; and
* Should reside full-time in South Africa for the duration of the Research Chair award. Candidates from abroad, including African scholars and South Africans in the diaspora, who are generally under the age of 40 (forty) years, are eligible for consideration.
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**Candidates should provide the following:**

**Candidate’s Details:**

Title and Name of the Candidate:

Current Employment position:

Race:

Gender:

Citizenship:

Age:

NRF rating if applicable:

h-index if available:

**Research Details:**

Proposed name (title) of Chair:

National relevance of the proposed chair (no more than half an A4 page):

Summary of proposed research including the scientific merit (no more than one A4 page):

**Candidate’s track record:**

The CV of the candidate detailing the publication record and postgraduate student training (level; current, completed; primary or co-supervisor; full or minor dissertation) must be submitted with the nomination.

1. Candidates for the SA-UK Bilateral Research Chairs must be based in a UK institution and be able to spend 50% of their time in each country for the duration of the Chair term. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)