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CALL FOR ROBERT BOSCH AFRICAN EARLY CAREER RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS

The Robert Bosch Foundation (based in Stuttgart, Germany) has awarded UCT funding to support two "*Robert Bosch African Early Career Research Fellows*" – starting mid-2016. The proposal is centred on UCT's strategic goals and ensure our transformation focus in supporting and recalling oustanding research talent within and to the African continent.

We seek to recruit and develop excellent and productive South African research/academic talent (back) to the African continent, who are currently based overseas. This call is particularly focussed on attracting applicants from historically disadvantaged South African population groups.

Thus, the *Robert Bosch African Early Career Research Fellows Program* seeks to produce a cohort of exceptionally well-trained South African researchers and academics whose ideas, abilities, and work are globally competitive in terms of discovery, development, and dissemination.

This call is for applications to fill two 2-yr fellowships with appropriate candidates currently overseas. Each package is worth ZAR 507 000 per year (salary ZAR \pm 407 000, plus strategic package ZAR \pm 100 000). The strategic package is to cover relocation costs and possibly contribute to first year of housing, travel etc. Note that no project/research costs are associated with this fellowship.

Application forms are available at:

http://www.uct.ac.za/usr/pgfo/2016_Bosch_African_Fellowship_application_form_24Mar2016.doc and completed applications can be sent to the the Postgraduate Funding office to pgfunding@uct.ac.za (Subject Line: Bosch Africa Fellowship) by 24th March. The application form further outlines the required documentation and information. Selection and possible interview of shortlisted candidates (via Skype) will be conducted by a committee of senior academics and Deans during April 2016.

Further information and queries – Peter.Meissner@uct.ac.za

Criteria – see over.

Criteria for the Robert Bosch African Early Career Research Fellowship Program:

- Promising and talented PhD trained individuals, currently overseas, with proven track-record of postdoctoral experience in any field (Typically Fellows should have at least 3 years of postdoctoral experience and demonstrable record of research in terms of publications, grant proposals, patents, and conference presentations).
- Applicants should be from historically disadvantaged South African population groups.
- Applicants must be committed to return to South Africa, undertake research at UCT and be primed for a dedicated academic career in South Africa.
- Female applicants will be favourably considered.
- Prospective fellows should not previously have held any permanent academic positions at an African institution.
- Research outcomes and a research proposal that addresses an Africa-specific issue will have an advantage. Preference will be given to those research proposals aligning to areas of active UCT research, already contributing to economic and societal growth and aimed to improve health, education and social progress on the African continent.
- All potential Fellows must have the support and commitment of appropriate faculties, departments and units to dovetail with various other UCT and faculty-specific initiatives aimed at supporting and developing early career academics and researchers.
- Funding, administration and all reporting to the Bosch Foundation to be handled through the appropriate host Department and Faculty.