

Chair for Critical Studies in Higher Education Transformation (CriSHET)
in partnership with

Central University of Technology (CUT)
Stellenbosch University (SU)
University of Cape Town (UCT)

Call for Applications: Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Online Resource for Higher Education Transformation
(ORHET)

The Chair for Critical Studies in Higher Education Transformation (CriSHET) at Nelson Mandela University, headed by André Keet, invites applications for a Postdoctoral Research Fellow to join its dynamic team. *CriSHET*'s research agenda comprises the study of higher education through the lenses of *critique* and *critical action*, within the orbit of Critical University Studies (CUS) and other radical approaches to the study of the sector. CUS is to be understood as the study of universities and higher education through analyses of power, privilege and authority, focusing on the production of the discursive fields of higher education transformation (the actors, players, histories, frames, etc.); the social structure of the academy; the power-relations embedded within the organisation of knowledge, its disciplines and disciples; the mechanics of authority and power within knowledge-generation processes, research subjects, objects, topics and trends; the politics of knowledge and academic publishing; pedagogical typologies; the construction of professional and student identities; institutional culture; the relationships between university, community and society; and the implications of the C19 pandemic for the higher education transformation project.

Visit our website for further information: <http://crishet.mandela.ac.za/>

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will be part of a multi-university team working on developing an Online Resource for Higher Education Transformation (ORHET). ORHET is envisaged as an extensive interactive archive and collaborative platform for the location, tracking, sourcing, classification and categorisation of transformation-related teaching and learning resources, training modes and platforms, research, good practices, etc. within the sector. It will provide the basis for e-learning, blended development programmes and workshop series; and the growth of libraries, databases, links, discussion forums, communities of practice, blogs, chatrooms, email listservs and research networks linked to the themes of higher education transformation.

The fellowship is a one-year full-time position; and may be extended for two more years based on performance. The fellow can be based anywhere in South Africa; but would preferably be hosted at one of the partner institutions.

Profile

Applicants committed to social justice from all knowledge fields are welcome to apply. We are particularly interested in individuals who enjoy working in a challenging inter- and trans-disciplinary environment; with a willingness to contribute to research and programmatic work in the higher education transformation field. Applicants should be proficient in digital skills. Experience in working with online technologies such as digital collaboration and communication platforms, online course design and development, website content management, etc. would be an advantage.

Applicants should also be in possession of a completed doctoral degree with evidence of scholarly output.

The successful candidate should have the ability to work collaboratively as part of an international team of scholars and graduate students, demonstrating strong interpersonal skills, as well as excellent research, writing and communication skills.

Applications should be submitted electronically by 8 June 2020 for the attention of Dr Jenny du Preez (Jenny.DuPreez@mandela.ac.za), with the subject heading 'ORHET Postdoctoral Fellowship application', along with the following documentation:

- A cover letter with motivation of how your research interests will align with the call;
- CV, including list of publications and names of two contactable referees; and
- Two samples of original written work (this could be formal or informal published work, a segment of a thesis chapter, or an academic report).

Short-listed candidates will be invited for an interview. Envisaged commencement of the fellowship is 1 July 2020. *CriSHET* reserves the right not to make an appointment.