LSSI Post Graduate Research Student Placement Opportunity

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a PGR student to work with the Joseph Rowntree Foundation to look at the labour market in post-industrial areas.

Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) is an independent social change organisation working to solve UK poverty. Through research, policy, collaboration and practical solutions, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation aims to inspire action and change to create a prosperous UK without poverty.

This project placement will involve working with the Policy and Partnerships (P&P) team who are responsible for developing solutions to UK poverty and working with others to put them into practice. The team draw on a wide range of evidence and sources of ideas, including JRF’s own analysis, academic research and insights from people with direct experience of the issues.

The P&P team has three main areas of focus which underpins the entirety of their work in this endeavour: housing, social security and work. The placement will be based in the area of ‘Work’ and the work carried out is intended to support a larger-scale, extended project which aims to support policy positions around the labour market in post-industrial locations. Through this work and wider project, JRF hope influence national and local governments and other actors to take actions which improve employment prospects of the communities and contribute to solving poverty.

Details of the placement
The primary placement activity will be to conduct a literature and evidence review exploring and analysing where public policy has successfully strengthened labour markets in post-industrial locations or boost labour market opportunities for citizens living in those communities. This project may also involve scoping out international examples of these efforts in order to learn from others’ best practice.

Tasks and duties will include:
- Identifying, organising and evaluating evidence relating to policy issues.
- Synthesising evidence to identify key themes and evidence gaps
- Presenting findings in meetings
- Developing and drafting reports and briefings for JRF and contributing to broader work
- Collaborating with a range of experts within and external to JRF

Skills Required
- Literature searching and reviewing
- Interest in policies relation to poverty and/or the labour market and/or post-industrial strategies
- Ability to work independently and meet deadlines
- A high level of interpersonal and communication skills, including the ability to communicate effectively with relevant stakeholder groups
- Familiarity with relevant research databases and (ideally) referencing management software
• Ability to demonstrate the underpinning values of JRF: built on trust; show we care and make a difference

Benefits and skills developed for the student
Key skills that the student might usefully develop could include experience of conducting literature reviews in applied contexts; increased understanding of the policy context surrounding post-industrial communities; experience of writing for different audiences.

Timetable:
130 hours in total beginning asap for 10 – 12 weeks
Weekly hours flexible and to be agreed
Student will receive a bursary of £1950 to cover their time and expenses on the placement
The placement will have initial contact time at JRF but the majority of the placement will be undertaken remotely whilst under the supervision of JRF.

If you are interested in applying for this placement position, please send:
• CV
• Cover Letter
• Email or signature from your Supervisor that they are happy for you to undertake the placement

To LSSI Coordinator Hannah Crow H.E.Crow@leeds.ac.uk by 27th January 2020.

For further information about the placement, please contact Emma Wincup (emma.wincup@jrf.org.uk) or Mike Hawking (mike.hawking@jrf.org.uk) at JRF.