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**LSSI Postgraduate Research Student Placement Opportunity**

**An exciting opportunity has arisen for a PGR student to work on a project with Pluto Journals Ltd and the International Journal of Disability and Social Justice.**

Pluto Journals Ltd is an international scholarly Journal publisher for the Social Sciences. The Company is owned by the Pluto Educational Trust, a UK registered Charity. All our 21 Journals are Open Access from 1st January 2021. Linked to our move to open access, we have been encouraging and supporting our Journals to establish membership models – an initiative taken up by half of our Journals, including the International Journal of Disability and Social Justice (IJDSJ). This membership approach is particularly important where a Journal has a potential following outside of academia.

The International Journal of Disability and Social Justice is a new Journal, due to publish its first issue in September 2021. It has a potential worldwide audience – in academia, across a wide variety of Professionals associated with Disability, and amongst disabled people’s organisations as well as individual disabled people and their allies. It is therefore well-suited to a membership system.

Pluto Journals and the Pluto Educational Trust are very enthusiastic about the PGR placement. The timing is perfect – in the lead up to the launch of a membership drive in September. The work of the student appointed would be directly for the benefit and under the oversight of Pluto Journals. The student would attend the regular fortnightly meetings between the editors of the Journal, the Founder and Chair of the Pluto Educational Trust and Membership Development Strategist. In these meetings, we would agree and review priorities and actions for the student’s placement work.

**Proposed timescales**

The weekly working hours and start date are to be agreed by the successful student and Pluto Journals Ltd. The student will be provided with a £1950 bursary to cover their time on the placement.

The placement will be conducted remotely. No equipment will be provided so you will need to be able to access a laptop/computer and internet connection.

The student will be supported by Pluto Journal Ltd with regular fortnightly meetings between the editors of the Journal, the Founder and Chair of the Pluto Educational Trust and the Membership Development Strategist.

**The ideal candidate and skills required**

* Previous experience of qualitative and quantitative research methods
* Understanding of how to analyse data (qualitative and quantitative)
* Previous experience of writing reports +/- academic papers
* Ability to engage with sensitive material / subject matter confidently and appropriately
* Able to work alone, communicate assertively and ask for help when required

**The anticipated benefits to the student’s skills/experience**

* Understanding of how a cutting-edge open access publisher operates
* Appreciation of how to make open access publishing a success
* Experience in identifying and liaising with relevant stakeholders
* Valuable experience of working with an academic publisher to develop a Membership scheme from its beginning and more generally, in working toward making an organisation financially viable.
* Valuable networking opportunities within the Pluto family and beyond

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 Institute Manager Cheryl Harris, C.A.Harris@leeds.ac.uk by Monday 2nd August 2021.

We will be reviewing the CVs after this date and you may be asked to attend an informal interview with the Pluto Journal Ltd team.