Job Title: CHEurope Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action Trainee (ESR11)

Project Title: Heritage and wellbeing

Grade: UCL MCT

Salary: £28,986 to £35,981 including London Allowance of £2,948 per annum

Department: UCL Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Institute for Women’s Health

Reports to: Dr Anne Lanceley, UCL EGA Institute for Women’s Health

Duration: 36 months

Terms and Conditions:

At the time the appointment is made, in order to qualify as a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action Trainee (EU Early Stage Researcher), candidates must have under four years (full-time equivalent) research experience and not yet have been awarded a doctoral degree. This is measured from the date when they obtained the Masters degree which would formally entitle them to embark on a doctorate. The candidates should not have spent more than 12 months in the United Kingdom in the 3 years immediately prior to the recruitment date.

Whilst researchers of any nationality can apply for this scheme, please note that the ESR Fellowships only cover the fee levels for EU citizens, not those for students from outside the EU. Non-EU applicants will have to cover the shortfall for the international PhD fees. Further information on fees can be found here http://www.ucl.ac.uk/current-students/money
Project Outline:

This is one of 15 PhD positions offered at 7 different European Higher Educational Institutions as part of the Critical Heritage Studies and the Future of Europe: Towards an integrated, interdisciplinary and transnational training model in cultural heritage research and management (CHEurope) doctoral training programme. CHEurope is funded by the EU under the Marie Sklodowska-Curie Action (MSCA) - Innovative Training Networks (ITN). Further information about CHEurope is available here [http://criticalheritagestudies.gu.se/cooperation/cheurope](http://criticalheritagestudies.gu.se/cooperation/cheurope)

This project will explore the interconnectedness of heritage and wellbeing in a cancer treatment context. The researcher will develop novel techniques and interventions for individuals undergoing curative treatment for their cancer that span the ‘Medical Humanities’ (i.e. ethnographic, visual-material culture, museological and interpretative), reflecting the vital interdisciplinary perspective of the Heritage and Wellbeing research strand of CHEurope.

The starting point for the project is to reframe the experience of cancer treatment as dynamic interactions with diverse object-worlds. The researcher will build on the work of Martha Nussbaum in terms of understanding how the performance of ‘play’ and imaginative acts (including the conscious act of developing ‘personas’ as coping strategies/ alter-egos) may be significant in terms of patients developing a sense of mastery, possession and control over their recovery, wellbeing and cure. The researcher will examine the relationships between ‘Play’ and the experience of treatment, developing holistic-participatory interventions to enhance wellbeing and recovery in patients undergoing chemotherapy for treatable cancer.

Interventions may explore the use of different types of objects and the values afforded to them by those having treatment for cancer e.g. as aural heritage-objects, amulets, ‘relics’/souvenirs, magical, religious, personal, childhood, lucky objects.

The project will investigate patients’ use of such objects as resources in the remaking of self/ personhood and in the desire to self-heal.

The research will take place at University College Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust comprehensive cancer treatment and research centre UCLH

Any other duties within the scope, spirit, and purpose of the job as requested by Principal Investigator(s), or other senior staff. As duties and responsibilities change, the job description will be reviewed and amended in consultation with the post holder.

UCL Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Institute for Women’s Health

The trainee though based in the clinically facing Dept of Women’s Cancer within The UCL Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Institute for Women’s Health will establish and maintain strong links with Dr Beverly Butler and other researchers and senior staff members in the Institute of Archaeology for the successful delivery of this cross disciplinary project.
UCL EGA Institute for Women’s Health, (www.ucl.ac.uk/instituteforwomenshealth) is a joint venture between two world-renowned institutions, University College London and University College London Hospital (UCLH) led by interim Directors Professor Usha Menon and Professor Judith Stephenson.

The Institute brings together individuals with expertise across the whole spectrum of women’s health – from laboratory science to clinical skills to social and behavioural sciences – with the objective of making a major contribution to the health of women, both in the UK and internationally, by pioneering research, education programmes and clinical initiatives.

For the first time women’s health can be addressed in its broadest sense, taking into account the social, psychological, economic, ethical and legal dimensions of health care, and working with models of health, illness and health care that move beyond the traditional. The Institute is UKs leading centre for research and education across the breadth of women’s health and is continuing to develop and grow to achieve its mission:

To bring together the expertise of clinicians and researchers from a diverse range of disciplines so that they can deliver excellence and innovation in research, clinical practice, education and training in order to make a real and sustainable difference to women’s and babies’ health locally, nationally and worldwide.

The Institute offers a stimulating environment for the study of all fields of women’s health including cancer. With 60+ research-active staff and a thriving graduate research student body of 40+ students the Institute is at the forefront of cross disciplinary research for women’s health.

For this project the Institute for Women’s Health is delighted to work with the UCL Institute of Archaeology (http://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/), one of the leading academic departments of archaeology in the UK and globally. The Institute of Archaeology is at the international forefront in all aspects of archaeology, archaeological science, conservation, heritage and museum studies.

Further information:

For further information about the position, please contact Dr Anne Lanceley a.lanceley@ucl.ac.uk

Person Specification

1. Eligibility – Early Stage Researcher

Essential: At the time the appointment is made, candidates must have under four years (full-time equivalent) research experience and not yet have been awarded a doctoral degree. Full-time equivalent research experience is measured from the date when the candidate obtained their Masters degree (which would formally entitle them to embark on a doctorate), either in the country in which the degree was obtained or in the United Kingdom, irrespective of whether or not a doctorate was started or envisaged.
2. Eligibility – Mobility
Essential: Candidates must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the United Kingdom for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the recruitment date. Compulsory national service and short stays such as holidays are not taken into account.

3. Qualifications
Essential: Candidates must hold a Masters degree with an overall grade of 70% or better, with at least 70% for the dissertation in Heritage or Museum Studies, Behavioural or Social Science, Archaeology, Anthropology, (or in an equivalent field).

4. Knowledge
Essential: Familiarity with the study of, or work experience in the heritage and/or museum sector and/or health care sector

Demonstrated keen interest in the interconnectedness of heritage and wellbeing

Demonstrated interest in theory development and methodological innovation in research at the heritage and wellbeing interface.

5. Skills
Essential: Familiarity with the use of qualitative research methods

6. Aptitude
Essential: Ability to work collaboratively
Self-motivation
Willingness to develop new skills when required
Proficiency in both written and spoken English (please see details of the English language proficiency requirements here http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/life/international

7. Personal Qualities
Essential: Commitment to academic research
Commitment to continuous professional development
Commitment to UCL’s policy of equal opportunity and the ability to work harmoniously with colleagues and students of all cultures and backgrounds.

Application procedure

Applicants should complete an online application for the position, ref 1629467 and include the following as attachments to the application:

1. A cover letter explicitly addressing each of the selection criteria for the position;
2. A research proposal of up to 2,500 words which clearly addresses the project description (see http://www.ucl.ac.uk/dis/phd for further guidance on what we would expect to see in a research proposal);
3. Two letters of reference;
4. Copies of your academic transcript;
5. Evidence of English Language Proficiency if English is not your first language;
6. A short CV.

If you are having difficulty accessing the on-line recruitment system, please contact Christina Ahlfors, c.ahlfors@ucl.ac.uk on 020 3108 2033, or http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/jobs/, for advice.

Once the successful candidate has been selected, they will be required to complete and submit a UCL Admissions application to enrol as a PhD student at UCL. This will be need to be undertaken in advance of issuing a contract of employment.

Research proposal
Applicants should provide a clear statement of their proposed project which should be between 1500 and 2500 words in length (excluding Key References). Particular emphasis will be placed on the quality of your proposal as part of the admissions process.

Your Proposal must describe your research project under the following subheadings and must clearly address the project theme:

Research Questions
Please provide an outline of the research questions to be addressed, showing their originality and significance within the general field of the research topic referring to key publications. You should identify the key thematic and theoretical aspects of your project as you currently conceive them and then list further specific lines of enquiry that you intend to pursue. You may find it useful to number your specific questions (see Sources, Data and Methods below).

Sources, Data and Methods
Describe the sources of information/data that the research will draw upon and identify any ethical considerations. If possible, please identify which sources you intend to use to address your research questions.

Research Skills
Give an account of the knowledge and expertise that you already have which is relevant to the proposed research and, most significantly, any training you will need to acquire to undertake your project (for example, ethnographic methods, statistical methods).

Time and Impact
Please conclude your Research Proposal with a consideration of why it is important to undertake the research at the present time and how the potential outcomes of your project might impact both on specialists in the given field and the wider academic community.

Key References
Please list up to 12 key references with a brief note (one or two sentences) of their significance to your proposed research topic.

References
All applicants should submit two academic references.

Deadline for applications: tbc
INSTITUTIONAL PROFILES

INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN’S HEALTH
Information on the Institute and Departments can be found at: www.ucl.ac.uk/instituteforwomenshealth

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON
A full profile can be found at: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/docs/UCLstandard_information.php

SCHOOL OF LIFE AND MEDICAL SCIENCES
A full profile can be found from the “About-us” link at: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/slms/

It comprises four Faculties:
❖ Brain Sciences http://www.ucl.ac.uk/brain-sciences
❖ Life Sciences http://www.ucl.ac.uk/lifesciences-faculty/
❖ Medical Sciences http://www.ucl.ac.uk/biomedical-sciences/
❖ Population Health Sciences http://www.ucl.ac.uk/populationhealth-sciences

A list of Divisions and Institutes in each Faculty can be found from the faculty Icons on the SLMS homepage