UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education

Job title: Researcher & Coordinator
Job location: New Delhi

Job location: UNESCO Chair based at Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), New Delhi

About UNESCO Chair: The UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education (www.unescochair-cbrsr.org), is co-chaired by Drs. Budd Hall (University of Victoria, Canada) & Rajesh Tandon (Participatory Research in Asia, New Delhi), since 2012. The Chair grows out of and supports UNESCO's global lead to play 'a key role in assisting countries to build knowledge societies' and supports North-South-South and South-South partnerships that build on and enhance the emerging consensus in knowledge democracy. It strengthens recent collaboration between the Higher Education section in UNESCO, the Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI), Global Alliance on Community University Engagement and other regional and global networks. It co-creates new knowledge through partnerships among universities (academics), communities (civil society) and government (policy makers) leading to: new capacities; new solutions to pressing problems related to sustainability, social and economic disparities, cultural exclusion, mistrust and conflict; and awareness among policy makers; enhanced scholarship of engagement; and of social responsibility in Higher Education.

About DECODE Project (Co-construction, Decolonisation & Transformation: Producing Actionable Knowledge for the Challenges of Our Times)

The International Development Research Centre has funded a 26 months research project (began in January 2024) designed to:

(1) Systematize existing practices of community-led participatory research from a variety of networks to draw lessons about values, principles, ethics and methods that support multi-dimensional impacts on current developmental challenges.
(2) Facilitate peer learning about good practices amongst civil society, engaged scholars and community researchers with a view to deepen future impactful policies and practices, including training of the next generation of researchers.
(3) Create an Open Access Knowledge Democracy Learning Platform to archive historically inaccessible literature, contemporary case studies and creative video or other media evidence of community and Indigenous led research.

Position Summary

UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education invites applications for a full-time Researcher & Coordinator, for the above mentioned research project, under the supervision of Drs. Budd Hall and Rajesh Tandon, the Co-Chairs. The responsibilities will include research work and coordination related tasks with an international research team and research related to community knowledge and impact on climate adaptation policy.
This position is based in Delhi reporting directly to UNESCO Co-Chair Dr Rajesh Tandon (www.pria.org).

Research related responsibilities

(1) Collaborate with Research Team leaders and management to align community knowledge dimensions of project objectives and strategies;
(2) Assist with research on various topics including community-led co-construction of knowledge, ethics of such knowledge production, special focus on gender dimensions of such actionable knowledge production, translation and mobilisation;
(3) Integrate Open Science principles and practices in research process and its dissemination.

Administrative & Coordination Responsibilities

(1) Be a main point of contact for inquiries and correspondence and networking related to research dimension of the DECODE project.
(2) Collaborate with DECODE team members in Victoria, New Delhi, Malaysia, Uganda and Colombia;

(3) Attend meetings, prepare detailed summaries of discussions, develop draft action plans for implementation and coordinating of various dimensions of the project; *and*

(4) Identification of International networks of community-led research on Climate Crisis and related UN Sustainable Development Goal themes.

(5) Coordination of the day-to-day activities of specific elements of the DECODE project to be determined in the project work plan.

(6) Coordination of research objectives with the UVic DECODE team and the regional research teams.

(7) Liaison with University of Victoria Library on creating the knowledge platform.

(8) Participation in the design of the workplan for the project and monitoring progress and milestones.

(9) Creating reports and working papers in cooperation with others as needed.

(10) Building the community of practice, the peer learning community, to share community-led research around the world.

Communications related responsibilities

(1) Prepare and edit program correspondence and communications through social media;

(2) Support building awareness of community knowledge creation and action within the DECODE team;

(3) Contribute to web-site population and development of the Knowledge Democracy Platforms; *and*

(4) Lead coordination of the webinars and similar activities.

Required qualifications, skills & abilities

(1) Masters *or* Ph.D. in Social Sciences or other research domains, with excellent written and oral academic language proficiency in English;

(2) Knowledge and practice of community-based participatory research

(3) Ability to work with a large international research team; *and,*

(4) Ability to coordinate with a network of academic and community partners.

(5) Ability to work autonomously and take a lead role on projects under the supervision of the Program leads and management;

(6) Strong organizational and time management skills with advanced attention to detail;

(7) High level of self-direction, with an ability to work both independently and as part of a team;

(8) Excellent critical thinking and problem-solving skills; *and*

(9) Advanced proficiency with computer applications including MS-Office Suite; experience using social media applications an asset.

Apply:

The candidates having relevant qualifications and experience need to apply at **hr@pria.org**, along with the following documents:

(1) Cover letter

(2) Detailed CV with names & contact details of three references

(3) Research outputs *viz.* journal articles/manuscripts or editorials that best demonstrate your fit for the position

- Only short-listed candidates will be called for interviews.
- Only complete submissions will be considered.