JOB POSTING – POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW

Area of Research: Food Environments / Time Use and Time Geography / Health Geography

Overview of the Position:
You will be joining Dr. Michael Widener’s research group as a main contributor to the Food Activities, Socioeconomics, Time-use, and Transportation (FASTT) Study. Data collection for this study occurred in 2019, with recruiting focused on potential participants who are adults living in households where children are present (e.g. parents, grandparents, etc.) in two neighbourhoods in Toronto, Canada. Datasets include a ≈50-question survey (with information on family context, food behaviours and knowledge, self-reported health/diet/stress, and transportation options), 7 days of GPS trajectory information, and 7 days of time use diaries.

We are seeking a single candidate for an 18-month term. The postdoctoral fellow will have office space at the University of Toronto St. George (downtown) campus, will have opportunities to collaborate with geography, urban planning, public health, and transportation researchers across multiple departments. Additional opportunities for collaboration will be available with FASTT co-investigators at the University of Waterloo, Western University, and Concordia University. The University of Toronto is a globally ranked research university that offers postdoctoral fellows the highest levels of opportunity for professional and scholarly training, network development, and the opportunity to engage with stakeholders throughout the Greater Toronto Area and beyond.

Description of Duties:
The successful candidate will conduct primary research in the abovementioned project, will be lead-author on journal articles and conference presentations, and will provide mentoring through collaboration with graduate students in the Department of Geography and Planning. Additionally, the postdoctoral fellow will assist Dr. Widener and his FASTT collaborators in executing the analysis of the dataset for a number of research products.

Required qualifications:
- PhD degree in geography, planning, public health, engineering, or related field awarded within past 5 years;
- Extensive knowledge of food environment research, built environment and health research, health geography, and time use and time geography research;
- Demonstrated experience with quantitative methods and statistical analysis, GIS, GPS trajectory analysis, time use analysis, and time geographic methods;
- Demonstrated experience in data management and scripting (Python and PostGIS preferred);
- Excellent written and oral communication in English;
- Excellent personal time management, project management and organizational skills;
- Possess a passion for health geography, food environments research, and social equity.
Salary: $51,000 / year + benefits

Please note that should the minimum rates stipulated in the collective agreement fall below the rates stated in this posting, the minimum rates stated in the collective agreement shall prevail.

Application instructions

All individuals interested in this position must submit a cover letter and short research statement (approximately two pages in length, combined), a CV, and contact information for two references to Michael Widener (michael.widener@utoronto.ca) by the closing date. Please email materials in a single PDF with the subject line: FASTT PDF Application.

Closing date: Screening of applications will commence on September 15th, 2019 and continue until the position is filled.

Supervisor: Professor Michael Widener

Expected start date: January 2020 (with some flexibility)

Term: 18 months

FTE: 1 Full-time equivalent

The normal hours of work are 40 hours per week for a full-time postdoctoral fellow (pro-rated for those holding a partial appointment) recognizing that the needs of the employee’s research and training and the needs of the supervisor’s research program may require flexibility in the performance of the employee’s duties and hours of work.

Employment as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Toronto is covered by the terms of the CUPE 3902 Unit 5 Collective Agreement.

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The University of Toronto is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from racialized persons / persons of colour, women, Indigenous / Aboriginal People of North America, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ persons, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.