

Post-doctoral positions: An exciting opportunity for candidates with enthusiasm, initiative and a strong commitment to interdisciplinary work in the area of child health and development

THE LAWSON POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS IN HEALTHY CHILD DEVELOPMENT

The Offord Centre for Child Studies invites applications for one to two-year post doctoral fellowships in the area of child health and development. Bringing different perspectives to common issues in child development, trainees will work within a collaborative team framework to establish their own research programs. This will be supported by faculty from multiple disciplines, for example, psychology, psychiatry, pediatrics, economics, epidemiology and statistics at the Offord Centre, McMaster University and McMaster Children's Hospital.

The faculty complement (and their research areas) includes the following: Kathryn Bennett (child emotional/behavioural problems and school achievement); Michael Boyle (contextual influences over the early life-course); John Cairney (family medicine, psychiatric epidemiology and longitudinal data analysis and developmental coordination disorder); Charles Cunningham (modelling children's mental health service delivery preferences); Scott Davies (change and inequality in education); Martin Dooley (child health and educational achievement); Kathy Georgiades (mental health of immigrant children); Geoff Hall (neuroimaging, autism, depression and social phobia); Susan Jack (preventing domestic violence, children injury and maltreatment); Magdalena Janus (transition to school and school readiness); Ellen Lipman (child psychiatric epidemiology; community-based intervention studies); Harriet MacMillan (epidemiology of violence against children and women); Alison Niccols (infant/child development; parent-child interaction); Louis Schmidt (socio-emotional development; developmental psychophysiology); Noam Soreni (obsessive compulsive disorder, neuroimaging) Peter Szatmari (autism spectrum disorders).

The fellowship will appeal to individuals wishing to use primary and secondary analysis studies to develop a program of research that examines a range of environmental and biological influences on child health & development at the national, neighbourhood, school, family and individual levels. Members of the Offord Centre have considerable experience in developing and implementing both observational and experimental studies in general and clinic populations. Housed within the Offord Centre is a data repository of large-scale developmental and cross-national studies that can be used to investigate developmental influences through secondary analysis. Successful applicants will have the opportunity for mentorship from multiple academic advisors depending on the program of research envisioned by the trainee.

In addition to a strong commitment to and interest in child health and development, the ability to think and work both independently and collegially in a research program are the key requirements for these positions. Candidates from a variety of backgrounds will be considered, including psychology, child psychiatry,

pediatrics, sociology, geography, economics, and anthropology. Demonstrated writing ability and strong methodological and analytic skills are important. It is expected that a successful candidate will be ready to apply for independent funding during their first year of training.

The successful candidate will have completed a PhD (or submitted a Ph.D. thesis for defense) and/or have a professional degree (e.g., MD) plus an MA or MSc in a substantive area.

The primary focus of this appointment is to develop independent researchers, capable of working within an interdisciplinary context. It is anticipated that this fellowship training will provide skills which can be used in future research careers in the academic or government sectors. McMaster University is committed to employment equity, and encourages applications from *all* who are eligible for this position.

Deadline Date: April 30, 2012

Interested candidates are invited to identify one or more faculty mentors at the Offord Centre and to send a letter of application, curriculum vitae, and the names of three academic referees agreeing to send reference letters on behalf of the candidate.

The letter of application should include the following:

- (1) A statement of research experience and interests;
- (2) Learning objectives for the fellowship;
- (3) A discussion of 'fit' between the candidate and the Centre;
- (4) A statement of long-term career objectives.

Please forward correspondence to:

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