
UWC Postdoctoral Innovation Fellowship Technology Transfer Office (TTO)

Introduction

As a research-led institution, UWC is prolific in generating Research Outputs and Intellectual Property (IP) with the potential to develop into innovations with socio-economic benefits for South Africa and the rest of the world. The UWC Technology Transfer Office (TTO) seeks to accelerate the development of UWC Research-generated IP to support its commercialisation, in a bid to make a positive change to society and the broader economy. It does so by supporting the UWC researchers and innovators to further develop their innovations to a stage where they would be ready for commercialisation or transfer to an innovation stakeholder.

One such support mechanism offered by the TTO is Seed Funding or "Proof-of-Concept" Funding. The UWC TTO manages the UWC Innovation Seed Fund Programmes, which allow researchers to further develop UWC IP, expanding UWC's Innovation potential. With a growing portfolio of Innovation Seed Fund Projects, the UWC TTO is looking to include Postdoctoral Innovation Fellows with a keen interest in Innovation Management and Technology Development.

As such, this offers an opportunity for Postdoctoral Fellows interested in Innovation Management and Management of Technology Development to perform research on the implementation of Innovation Seed Funding and its impact on Technology development, while simultaneously developing their innovation management skills and getting involved, under the supervision of the UWC TTO, in the management and support of these UWC Innovation and Technology Development Projects.

The TTO invites applications for a one-year Postdoctoral Innovation Fellowship from appropriately qualified individuals interested in further developing their skills in Innovation Management and the Management of Technology Development while assessing the impact of Innovation and Technology Development Projects within the UWC Seed Fund Portfolio.

Postdoctoral Innovation Fellowship Project Description

The project will focus on the assessment of the implementation of the UWC Seed Funding and its impact in Innovation and Technology Development, and will include the following activities:

- Innovation Management and Technology Transfer training of Postdoctoral Fellow
- Practical implementation of Innovation Management activities, including:
- Assessment of the technology potential of the Seed Fund Innovations for socio-economic potential
- Development of commercialisation strategies for the Seed Fund Innovations

- Support for the Seed Fund Awardees with the implementation of the project deliverables
- Support of the Seed Fund Awardees with the technology development activities, where necessary
- Support of the Seed Fund Awardees with the identification and management of Industry partners or Research collaborators
- Collaboration with the Technology Transfer Specialist: Commercialisation, with the overall management of the UWC Seed Fund Portfolio
- Assessment of the overall implementation of the UWC Seed Funding and its impact

Minimum Criteria:

- A PhD degree in a foundational discipline relevant to the topic, completed in the past five years. An applicant who has not completed their PhD when the Fellowship is offered must have submitted the PhD thesis by the end of 2023. In these circumstances, the TTO will require written assurance from the applicant's supervisor that there is a reasonable expectation that the doctoral degree will be awarded.
- Full CV with contact details for three referees
- A motivation letter outlining the interest and experience (if any) in project management, innovation management, technology transfer and/or, technology development.
- Non-SA applications: A passport with a valid permit

Application Submission:

Applicants are to **submit their CV and cover letter** to acasanueva@uwc.ac.za by **31 January 2024**.

Shortlisted applicants will be contacted for an interview.