The Opportunity

Expressions of interest are sought for a full-time PhD scholarship in the Faculty of Law and the Accident Research Centre at Monash University. The scholarship is funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council Centre of Research Excellence in Recovery after Road Traffic Injury. The CRE brings together leading researchers at Griffith University, the University of Queensland, the University of Sydney and Monash University. The student will be supervised by Dr Genevieve Grant (Faculty of Law) and Dr Janneke Berecki-Gisolf (Monash University Accident Research Centre) at Monash University, and Professor Luke Connelly (Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences) at the University of Queensland.

The Project: Legal Services Use in Road Traffic Injury Compensation Claims

Legal services contribute significantly to client experience and outcomes in compensation systems. Despite this, there is limited research evidence about the profile, drivers and trends associated with lawyer use in motor vehicle injury compensation claims. The legal services market is undergoing considerable change, with the growth of major players and potential for disruptive innovation to impact on the way services are delivered in the future. This project will develop the evidence base needed to support better understanding on this important topic.

The research approach will be empirical, transdisciplinary and comparative. It will utilise quantitative data including the Compensation Research Database at the Institute for Safety, Compensation and Recovery Research. Inter-jurisdictional comparison with NSW and Queensland will be encouraged, including through collaboration with CRE investigators.

Benefits

The package of benefits available for the successful applicant includes:

- Stipend of $25,850 per year for three years (tax free and indexed annually)
- Faculty of Law Transdisciplinary Research Bonus of $5,000 per year
- Support for attendance at national and international conferences
- Membership of the CRE early career network of PhD and post-doctoral scholars
- Support for research visits to CRE collaborator sites (Griffith, Sydney, UQ)

Candidate requirements

The successful candidate will have:

- A first or second class honours degree, and/or a Master’s degree in a relevant field (for example but not limited to law, socio-legal research, economics, sociology, public health, epidemiology or health services research)
- Australian or New Zealand citizenship or permanent residency
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Familiarity and expertise with quantitative data analysis (or preparedness to develop these skills)
- Research and/or practical experience relevant to the research topic (this could include but is not limited to working as an injury lawyer, or in insurance)
Expressions of Interest

EOIs should comprise:
- a cover letter that includes a brief statement of the applicant’s suitability for and interest in the position
- a curriculum vitae, including a list of any published works
- a full statement of academic record, supported by scanned copies of relevant certified transcripts, and
- contact details of two referees (preferably academic).

Expressions of interest (preferably in the form of a single PDF attachment to an email) and enquires should be directed to Dr Genevieve Grant genevieve.grant@monash.edu or 03 9905 3341.

The closing date for applications is 31 May 2016 (at 5pm).