STUDENT RESEARCH ASSISTANT POSITION

The University of Cape Town’s Intellectual Property (IP) Unit is pleased to announce a call for applications for a part-time student research assistant position.

The IP Unit is based in the Department of Commercial Law. It strives to be a leading voice in realising a continent where there is an open exchange of African ideas about creativity and innovation, in pursuit of sustainable development. We promote research, teaching and learning in IP through holistic, balanced and open approaches, in order to stimulate innovation that drives development. Our core values are Integrity, Inclusiveness, Relevance.

We are involved in several domestic, regional and international research collaborations, such as Open AIR (www.openair.africa), and we now seek an LL.B. student to join our team as a research assistant until March 2018.

Student research assistant duties will span the scholarly spectrum and can include: conducting literature reviews; creating surveys and other tools; collecting, managing and analysing data; co-writing peer reviewed articles and briefing papers; contributing to reports and submissions; co-presenting findings; writing blog posts and other media materials; network building through technology and social media; and assist with reporting and monitoring and evaluation duties. The student research assistant will also be encouraged and supported to conduct his/her own original research, under the direction and mentorship of academics based at UCT and/or other participating faculty, and could receive authorial or co-authorial credit. These activities will build academic skills like research methods, theory building, and scholarly publishing. The student research assistant will also have administrative duties in order to help build highly transferable professional skills such as leadership and teamwork, project management, and community engagement.

The student research assistant is expected to work, at the IP Unit, for up to 35 hours per month at an hourly rate of R96.

Applicants must:

- be computer literate;
- know how to search online databases;
- have some previous experience with drafting literature reviews;
- have a keen interest in intellectual property law;
- have good organisational skills;
- be able to work with accuracy and attention to detail.

Since some funding is provided by Canadian funding agencies for these positions, an academic or other relevant link with Canada would be an asset.

If you are interested in applying for this opportunity, please provide – via email to IP Unit Project Manager Nan Warner on nancy.warner@uct.ac.za – a curriculum vitae, copies of your qualification certificates and a covering letter outlining your qualifications/experience and how they would support our work. The deadline for applications is 30 October 2017.

For more information on the IP Unit, its members, its research projects and course offering, please visit and familiarise yourself with the information on IP Unit website, www.ip-unit.org. The IP Unit supports UCT’s commitment to the pursuit of excellence, diversity and redress in achieving our equity targets. UCT’s Employment Equity Policy is available at http://www.uct.ac.za/downloads/uct.ac.za/about/policies/eepolicy.pdf. For this posts we seek particularly to attract South African black candidates. We reserve the right not to appoint.