POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Associate in Research
Program: Program on Global Health and Technology Access, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University
Reports to: Anthony D. So, MD, MPA, Director, Program on Global Health and Technology Access

This position provides an opportunity to work with the Program on Global Health and Technology Access (GHTA) at Duke University’s Sanford School of Public Policy. The Program on Global Health and Technology Access is a program of scholarship, policy convening, and teaching on globalization and health equity, particularly viewed through the lens of innovation and access to health technologies. As part of its work, the Program explores alternative policy models and strategies of R&D that would advance innovation and access to essential medicines, especially for those in low- and middle-income countries; investigates patterns of the ownership and sharing of knowledge to improve innovation of such health technologies; and organizes policy convenings of key stakeholders on these issues. The Director of the Program is Anthony So, Professor of the Practice of Public Policy and Global Health, who also serves as a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Investigator in Health Policy Research. The Program serves as the Strategic Policy Unit of ReAct, a global network committed to raising policymaker awareness over antibiotic resistance; has supported the work of intergovernmental organizations, from the WHO’s Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research to the UN Development Program; and completed commissioned work for the Institute of Medicine and the Global Commission on HIV and the Law. The Program also oversees an NIH Fogarty grant on the “Political Economy of Tobacco Control in Southeast Asia,” a regional research and capacity building effort that serves to enable those in Southeast Asia to respond more effectively to the challenge of tobacco use for the long term and on their own terms.

The Program on Global Health and Technology Access is looking for one to two highly talented staff that would bring complementary skills to our work. Depending on the individual’s qualifications and interests, the Associate in Research will have responsibilities, such as the following:

• The Associate in Research will support Program research, policy convenings and outreach activities on innovation and access to health technologies, including research on topics such as:
  o The innovation of vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics, with particular attention to resource-limited settings or for vulnerable populations;
  o New approaches for health research and development, such as collaborative R&D and open science arrangements, innovative financing and procurement mechanisms, and novel approaches to sharings resources, risks and rewards; and
  o Intellectual property incentives and disincentives, including humanitarian licensing practices, patent pools, and other strategic ways to manage innovation and intellectual property for the public’s interest.
• Research activities may span both quantitative and qualitative analyses, involving case study interviews, survey development, patent and citation landscaping, social network analysis and research pipeline analysis.
• The Associate will develop strategic policy convenings and projects around innovation and access issues, from ensuring the successful logistical execution to follow-up from hosted meetings.
• The Associate will conduct literature reviews and contribute to the various research outputs of the Program, including policy briefs, journal articles, and professional presentations.
• As needed, oversee and manage research and program assistants (both full-time employees and part-time students).
• Additionally, the Associate will support the Director in other Program activities, including teaching of courses, as needed.

Experience and Training:
• MPH, MPA, PhD or equivalent graduate training in public health, public policy or other relevant field, with equivalent professional experience.
• Background or demonstrated interest in topics on innovation and access to medicines, either globally or in the U.S. context.
• Research experience, particularly with quantitative data;
• Strong writing and policy analytic skills highly preferred.

Skills and Abilities:
• Prefer experience with data collection and statistical data analysis as well as facility with spreadsheet analysis and software tools
• Outstanding initiative and ability to work independently and solve problems creatively.
• Background or research experience in economics, value chain analysis, social network analysis, and/or biomedical research a plus
• Highly organized with excellent ability to set priorities among multiple tasks.
• Strong interpersonal, teamwork, and communication skills essential, preferably with a track record of organizing activities and/or managing staff or projects
• Excellent written and oral communication skills.
• Strong computer skills: Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Internet searches.
• Project management experience preferred

Interested candidates should send a cover letter, curriculum vitae, writing sample(s) preferably demonstrating policy analytic skills, and the names of three references to ghta@duke.edu. As we will review applications on a rolling basis, candidates should indicate their interest as soon as possible and their date of availability. If you have any questions regarding the position, please submit them in writing to ghta@duke.edu. Resumes will be accepted until the position is filled, but to ensure fullest consideration, please apply by September 9, 2013.