



JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS (2 POSITIONS)

(1 x part time: 24 hours per week and 1 x full time: 40 hours per week)
(4-year contracts)

Division of Child Adolescent Psychiatry
Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health
Faculty of Health Sciences

The Centre for Autism Research in Africa (CARA) has been awarded a research grant for a study entitled Autism Caregiver Coaching in Africa (ACACIA). The research project is funded by a R01 grant from the National Institutes of Mental Health in the United States with Dr Lauren Franz (Duke University) as Principal Investigator and Prof Petrus de Vries (UCT) as co-Principal Investigator.

The aim of the study is to evaluate the effectiveness, implementation barriers & facilitators, and cost-effectiveness of a caregiver coaching intervention delivered by non-specialists for improving developmental outcomes for young autistic children in South Africa.

The research site/s are based in the Cape Metropolitan area. Research activities will involve undertaking a randomized control trial with 150 caregiver-child dyads who will each receive 12 caregiver coaching sessions delivered by non-specialists and 3-4 baseline and follow-up assessments.

The main purpose of the Junior Research Fellow positions will be to conduct baseline and follow-up assessments. Responsibilities include administration of clinician administered primary outcome measures (Griffiths Scales of Development, Third Edition and Vineland Adaptive Behavioural Scales, Third Edition), regular reporting and record-keeping according to study protocols (clinical report preparation and quality checks) and research administration (updating the database, data capturing and maintaining filing system).

There are two positions available: one full-time (40h per week) and another part-time at 24h per week). Both are 4-year fixed term (T2) contract position, for two Junior Research Fellow positions to start as soon as possible.

Junior Research Fellows will be selected considering their knowledge and experience with the project's clinical outcome measures. We are therefore seeking candidates with expertise in clinical assessments. Knowledge of the Griffiths Scales of Development, Third Edition and Vineland Adaptive Behavioural Scales, Third Edition will be highly desirable.

Requirements:

- A Master's Degree in Psychology or a related field.
- Technological literacy in using devices (smartphones, tablets).
- Fluent in English (written and verbal).
- Excellent ability to build interpersonal relationships.
- Excellent communication skills (written and verbal).
- Excellent organizational skills.
- Flexibility and strong teamwork/collaboration skills.
- Highly attentive to detail.
- Experience conducting clinical assessments with young children.

The following will be advantageous:

- Experience and training using the Griffiths Scales of Development, Third Edition and/or Vineland Adaptive Behavioural Scales, Third Edition.
- Specific experience or interest in autism, early autism intervention and child mental health.
- Fluency in isiXhosa and/or Afrikaans.
- Previous experience working within a research team.
- Interest in pursuing a PhD degree.

Responsibilities:

- Administration of clinician administered primary outcome measures: Griffiths Scales of Development, Third Edition and Vineland Adaptive Behavioural Scales, Third Edition).
- Reporting and record-keeping according to study protocols (preparation of clinical reports and quality checks).
- Research administration (updating the database, data capturing and maintaining filing system).

The annual remuneration package, including benefits, are as follows:

Full-time: 40 hours per week: Between R544 062 and R753 904
Part-time: 24 hours per week: Between R326 437 and R452 342

To apply, please e-mail the below documents in a **single pdf file** to Ms Tracy Moore at recruitment05@uct.ac.za

- UCT Application Form (download at <http://forms.uct.ac.za/hr201.doc>)
- Motivation letter that speaks to the specific requirement of the position, and
- Curriculum Vitae (CV)

Please ensure the title and reference number are indicated in the subject line and clearly indicate whether the application should be considered for the full-time position, part-time position, or both.

An application which does not comply with the above requirements will be regarded as incomplete.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and may be required to undergo an assessment.

Telephone: 021 650 5405 **Website:** www.psychiatry.uct.ac.za
www.cara.uct.ac.za

Reference number: E230356 **Closing date:** 30 October 2023

UCT is a designated employer and is committed to the pursuit of excellence, diversity and redress in achieving its equity targets in accordance with the Employment Equity Plan of the University and its Employment Equity goals and targets. Preference will be given to candidates from the under-represented designated groups. Our Employment Equity Policy is available at www.hr.uct.ac.za/hr/policies/employ_equity.

UCT reserves the right not to appoint.