



AFRICA CENTRE FOR DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

At the University of Stellenbosch Business School

Opportunities for research assistants on business, conflict and peace

The Africa Centre for Dispute Settlement (ACDS) is engaged in a number of research projects on business in conflict-prone environments, including the following:

- Co-leadership of an international research consortium on business and peace that seeks to, on a global basis, better document the wide range of company practice, understand the theories and assumptions on which different approaches are built, and assess evidence of impact;
- As part of this project, development of a case study on business, conflict and peace in the Niger Delta, with specific focus on why, how and when businesses have taken decisions to engage more proactively in addressing drivers of conflict and peace, why they may not, and how organizational dynamics influence the nature and effectiveness of company engagement;
- In a related stream of work, an assessment of the Partners for Peace network in the Niger Delta, established by the Chevron-promoted and supported Niger Delta Partnership Initiative (NDPI).

The Centre is seeking a number of part-time, paid research assistants to help advance this work. Masters and doctoral students from any African institution are invited to apply, but for team management reasons, students based in the Cape Town area will be given preference.

These projects on business, conflict and peace are led by Brian Ganson, Head, Africa Centre for Dispute Settlement and Extraordinary Associate Professor at the University of Stellenbosch Business School, and Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Cape Town Graduate School of Business. More information about Prof. Ganson and his work is available at www.ganson.org.

Team characteristics

It is unlikely that any single candidate will have all of the skills and experience required by the projects. We are therefore looking to assemble a small team who in the aggregate have the following profile:

- Analytic background: Experience and/or expertise with conflict analysis, conflict sensitive business practice, business and human rights, and/or peacebuilding design, monitoring and evaluation;
- Company background: Experience and/or expertise with private-sector operations in conflict-prone environments, whether from the business, government or civil society perspective;
- Contextual background: Experience and/or expertise on conflict in Nigeria, in particular in the Niger Delta;
- Capacity building background: Experience and/or expertise in capacity building for conflict risk assessment, conflict risk mitigation, and/or conflict resolution.

Team members must have strong writing skills and be able to work both independently and collaboratively.

While we understand we are recruiting students whose primary responsibility is their studies, availability is required in the September to December 2016 period. Work may continue into 2017.

The primary task of the team of research assistant team will be secondary research. There may be opportunities, however, to build from this work to develop masters level theses or support doctoral work.

How to apply

Please provide the following to Prof. Ganson at Brian.Ganson@USB.ac.za:

- A brief statement of motivation – no more than 300 words.
- Your current CV in any format, highlighting your potential contributions to the team.

Positions will be filled on a rolling basis, so please do not delay if you are interested in the opportunity. Any questions? Just ask!