



# AIFMRM

AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF FINANCIAL MARKETS AND RISK MANAGEMENT



## Vacancy for two PhD Students at the University of Cape Town

The *African Institute of Financial Markets and Risk Management* (AIFMRM) in the Faculty of Commerce at the University of Cape Town is a newly founded graduate institute committed to increasing the extent and depth of expertise in the African financial service industry. The institute is committed to rigorous scholarly research and takes a critical and quantitative approach to the study of financial markets and risk management. AIFMRM is inviting applications for two PhD Student Fellowships. Application deadline is **15 December 2015** (late applications will be considered until both positions are filled) and appointments are for as soon as is feasible. The tenure of the fellowship is for three years.

We are looking for two enthusiastic PhD students with a Masters in economics, finance, computer science, mathematics, or closely related fields. We offer a three-year fully funded fellowship of R180,000 per annum. A series of PhD-level courses in the broad area of financial risk management and financial economics is offered to supplement Master-level courses. Travel funding is available, e.g. for conference travel and publication costs. We encourage and actively support PhD Students to undertake internships either in the financial industry or with regulatory authorities and central banks during their PhD.

In particular, we are interested for PhD students to join us on two research projects:

### 1. Informal Collaboration in Financial Economics

Collaboration is increasingly important for the production of knowledge. Academics collaborate formally by writing papers together, but most collaboration is informal. In this research project we study informal collaboration among financial economists. The project has been ongoing for three years and we have collected a large amount of unique data. Research questions could include, but are not limited to, developing a novel ranking of universities and central banks based on their publications; studying how the social network of a PhD advisor affects the subsequent academic career of a PhD student; developing a model of collaboration within academia.

### 2. Quantitative Easing and Channels of Systemic Risk

As part of a large international research collaboration with Goethe University Frankfurt, the New York University Stern School of Business, Xiamen University, and Waseda University, we develop an agent-based model of the financial system to study the impacts of quantitative easing in industrialized countries on systemic risk in developing countries. The Volkswagen Foundation funds the project and mutual research visits and joint conferences are an integral part of our agenda. It will be advantageous if the student has prior experience in python.

## *Application Procedure and Selection*

To apply, please send your complete application package, including:

- A letter of motivation
- A complete CV including the name and contact details of two references
- Copies of academic transcripts

to Co-Pierre Georg ([cogeorg@gmail.com](mailto:cogeorg@gmail.com), African Institute of Financial Markets and Risk Management, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa). For further questions and inquiries please contact Carmen Ross ([carmen.ross@uct.ac.za](mailto:carmen.ross@uct.ac.za)).

The University of Cape Town reserves the right to disqualify ineligible, incomplete and/or inappropriate applications. The University of Cape Town reserves the right to change the conditions of award or to make no awards at all.