

Lancaster University in partnership with the Malawi-Liverpool-Wellcome Centre

PhD Studentship in Spatial Statistics/Epidemiology 2015-2018

Applications are invited for this ESRC-funded three-year studentship. The research will involve the development and application of statistical methods relevant to the geospatial analysis of ongoing and planned large-scale community-based studies aimed at improving our understanding of social and climatic factors affecting spatial and temporal variation in malaria. The detailed work plan will be agreed in discussion with the successful candidate.

The student will enter the PhD programme in Statistics and Epidemiology at Lancaster::

www.lancaster.ac.uk/fhm/study/postgraduate/courses/statistics-and-epidemiology-phd They will be co-supervised by Prof Peter Diggle in Lancaster and Dr Anja Terlouw based at the Malawi-Liverpool-Wellcome Trust (MLW) Clinical Research programme in Blantyre, Malawi, and will divide their time between Lancaster University and MLW in proportions to be agreed. The time spent in Malawi will include field-work, data collection and collaboration on public health research topics, whilst the time spent in Lancaster will focus on methodological development and statistical analysis. The studentship will also benefit from additional opportunities arising from a long standing collaboration with Dr Madeleine Thomson at the International Research Institute for Climate and Society, Columbia University, New York.

Candidates should have, or expect to receive before October 2015, a first class honours Bachelor degree or a Master Degree, in Statistics or Epidemiology. They should also demonstrate a commitment to collaborative research in public health in a low-resource country setting.

We anticipate that the project will meet the ESRC's requirements to be designated as an Advanced Quantitative Methods (AQM) project, in which case the studentship pays fees at UK/EU rates, a stipend of at least £16,590 per year and a research training support grant of at least £1000. Any necessary field work associated with the project would be funded separately.

Candidates of any nationality are encouraged to apply. Non-EU nationality candidates will be eligible for full funding as set out above if the project is designated as an AQM project.

Potential applicants are encouraged to contact either of the co-supervisors before 28 February 2015, enclosing a copy of their CV. Short-listed applicants will then be asked to make a formal application to Lancaster University.

Prof Peter Diggle (p.diggle@lancaster.ac.uk)

Dr Anja (DJ) Terlouw (Anja.Terlouw@lstmed.ac.uk)