THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT, EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE IN DEVELOPMENT INFORMATICS

Vacancy ref: HUM-009278

Salary: Grade 6, £31,076 to £38,183 per annum

Hours: 1 FTE

Duration: Fixed term, as soon as possible until 31 July 2017

Location: Oxford Road, Manchester

Responsible to: Professor Diana Mitlin

Enquiries about the vacancy, shortlisting and interviews:
Name: Richard Heeks, Professor of Development Informatics, Global Development Institute
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Background
The University of Manchester seeks to appointment a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Global Development Institute (GDI) in the School of Environment, Education and Development (SEED) to support future research bidding and to contribute to the Addressing Global Inequalities beacon.

The Global Development Institute (**http://www.gdi.manchester.ac.uk/**)
The University of Manchester has been at the forefront of Development Studies for over 60 years. In the last 20 years it has become a driving intellectual force in research and postgraduate teaching in this field. As addressing poverty, inequality and prosperity becomes an increasingly global project, we have united the strengths of the Institute for Development Policy and Management (IDPM) and the Brooks World Poverty Institute (BWPI), to create the Global Development Institute.

The Global Development Institute (GDI) plays a major role in supporting the University's commitment to addressing global inequality. It aims to create and share knowledge to inform and influence policy makers, organisations and corporations, so that they can make positive and sustainable changes for people living in poverty. Promoting social justice is at the heart of GDI's

ambition and is connected to our core values of inclusivity, responsibility, equity and sustainability.

The Institute builds on The University of Manchester's world-leading reputation for Development Studies research, which has seen us ranked 1st for impact and 2nd for quality in the UK Research Excellence Framework 2014, and third in the QS World University Rankings. Over 45 academics, up to 100 PhD students and over 400 Master's students will become part of the largest provider of Development Studies research and postgraduate education within Europe. Within the Institute, the Rory and Elizabeth Brooks Doctoral College is the first doctoral college for the study of global development in the world.

Work at GDI provides considerable job satisfaction. This derives particularly from working in a successful postgraduate centre that has a global reputation; from interacting on a regular basis with students from a wide variety of countries and backgrounds; from the high level of assistance provided by support staff; from working on real-world issues of importance to development; and from the ability to identify and develop personal interests and priorities. GDI prides itself on providing a friendly and supportive multi-disciplinary environment.

Research
GDI's academics have a reputation for cutting-edge research in a variety of areas related to four research themes: Environment, Urban and Agrarian Change; Prosperity, Inequality and Poverty; Governance and Management; and Globalisation and Political Economy. Research and knowledge transfer on poverty and inequality has been spear-headed by the world class work of the Brooks World Poverty Institute (http://www.gdi.manchester.ac.uk/). A major ongoing initiative on the links between politics and development is the DFID-funded Effective States and Inclusive Development Research Centre (www.effective-states.org). In recent years, growing specialist research areas have included urban development, politics and governance, and environment and development, and the study of value, valuation and environment http://thestudyofvalue.org/. A full list of GDI research can be found at http://www.gdi.manchester.ac.uk/.

Research is currently organised through ten research groups:
- Centre for Organisations in Development
- Centre for Development Informatics
- Enterprise, Technology & Finance
- Environment and Development
- Global Production Networks, Trade & Labour
- Global Urbanism
- Humanitarianism and Development
- Poverty and Social Justice
- Social Theory and Development Histories
- State-Society Relations

SEED have recently reconfigured its organizational structure. The Global Development Institute (GDI) was launched early in 2016 and the Manchester Urban Institute (MUI) is currently being established. These two Institutes draw on the strengths of the inter-disciplinary Global Urban Research Centre (GURC). Their research portfolio builds on the strengths of GURC in terms of poverty analysis, the reduction of poverty and inequality, climate change adaptation, and violence and conflict. This post offers an exciting opportunity to develop a portfolio of work focusing on towns and cities in the global South, and to participate in an emerging agenda of

innovative research across the global North and South building on the work of scholars across SEED and potentially in other disciplines across the University.

Teaching
Most teaching within GDI is at Masters and Doctoral levels. Masters programmes are one of the ways in which we disseminate the findings of our own research. But they are also market-led, sensitive to the learning and vocational needs of our students, most of whom work, or aspire to work, in organisations in developing/emerging economies or in development settings.

Teaching within GDI is organised in four clusters: Management and Governance in Development, Development Economics and Public Policy, Social Development, and Development Informatics.

School of Environment, Education and Development
The School of Environment, Education and Development (SEED) represents one of the most innovative academic structures of the University of Manchester. It forges an interdisciplinary partnership combining Geography, Planning and Environmental Management, the Manchester School of Architecture, the Manchester Institute of Education and the Global Development Institute (GDI), thus uniting research into social and environmental dimensions of human activity. SEED has over 160 academic staff (within a total staff complement of more than 200), over 1,500 undergraduates and more than 1,500 postgraduate students, of whom over 200 are research students.

The University
The University of Manchester, formed in 2004 by bringing together The Victoria University of Manchester and UMIST, is Britain's first chartered university of the 21st century. With some of the highest quality teaching and research, and the broadest spread of academic subjects, the University is able to compete with the best universities in the world. The University's vision for the future is the creation of a 21st century institution that is an international research powerhouse and a favoured destination for the best students, teachers, researchers and scholars in the world. The merged University was established with an unprecedented £430 million capital programme to enhance research and teaching facilities and improve the campus, with a further £700 million to be invested in coming years. The new institution is the largest single-site higher education institution in the country, offering students a greater choice of degree programmes and options, and even better facilities and support services. A landmark document, Towards Manchester 2020, sets out a dynamic plan for making the University of Manchester one of the top 25 universities in the world: http://www.manchester.ac.uk/discover/vision/.

Manchester offers extensive provision for research and scholarship. Library facilities include the University Library and the Manchester Central Reference Library. The University Library is the largest non-legal-deposit academic library in the United Kingdom, providing services and resources to students, researchers and academic staff as well as members of the public, schools and commercial companies. It holds the widest range of electronic resources of any UK higher education library.
General information about the University may be found on the University website: http://www.manchester.ac.uk

The City and the Region
Manchester is one of the great cities of Europe, and the University's main campus is within walking distance of the city centre. The city's architecture represents one of the high points of Victorian achievement. The modern city is a major centre of banking, commerce and manufacturing, and hosts MediaCityUK, the country's most significant centre for creative and digital businesses. Manchester has a highly cosmopolitan atmosphere and its cultural life is internationally renowned. Within 15 minutes' walk from the campus there are three outstanding professional theatre companies, the halls of the Hallé and BBC Philharmonic orchestras, the HOME Arts Centre and other cinemas, and Europe's fastest-growing Chinatown. Amongst developments enriching the area's cultural life have been: the opening of the Lowry Centre at Salford Quays; the Bridgewater Concert Hall; Urbis in the centre of Manchester and the Imperial War Museum North, designed by Daniel Libeskind, in Trafford; the award-winning Whitworth Art Gallery (part of the University); and, the refurbished City Art Gallery. The Manchester music and dance 'scene' has been a leading contributor to contemporary global culture since the 1980s.

Trafford, and specifically Old Trafford, is known internationally as a venue for Test cricket and the home of Manchester United. The Commonwealth Games were successfully held in Manchester in 2002. This created an abundance of additional sports facilities; the University is a part-owner of the Commonwealth Pool, which offers on-campus, world-class swimming facilities. The Commonwealth Stadium became the home of Manchester City FC in 2003. Housing is varied, plentiful and, by English standards, moderately priced. Schooling ranges from excellent sixth-form colleges and comprehensives to world-famous private schools.

Manchester is well served by a major international airport, with direct scheduled flights to many destinations in Europe, North America and Asia. Manchester Piccadilly railway station has been refurbished and is served by inter-city and other train services – with a direct link to Manchester Airport. The frequent trains to London take just over two hours to reach Euston. The expanding network of Metrolink tram services offers an alternative mode of public transport from many parts of the conurbation. There is beautiful countryside not far from the University in the Peak District National Park, while the Lake District and Snowdonia in Wales are also within easy reach.

JOB DESCRIPTION
The Development Implications of Digital Economies (DIODE) research network is seeking a postdoctoral researcher. The principle duties of the role will include:
- Undertaking systematic literature reviews in areas relating to the digital economy in developing countries
- Providing detailed summaries of existing conceptual and empirical work to help elicit the research gap
- Assisting team members undertaking empirical studies in these areas through targeted research assistance to help strengthen the shaping of a case for support for new research
- Advancing the research trajectory on the digital economy in developing countries including writing up relevant doctoral/other research, preparing a research bid and piloting research
- Supporting the development and operation of a research network on the digital economy in developing countries, including event publicity and organisation, social media and web presence, network growth, and discussion forums
- Undertaking related administrative tasks including coordinating, managing and minuting meetings and workshops

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential Skills, Knowledge and Experience:
- A PhD, or equivalent experience, in a related discipline
- An understanding of the literature and debates on related themes
- Excellent and demonstrable writing skills
- Excellent and demonstrable ability to conduct literature reviews and to synthesis existing work
- Qualitative and quantitative data analysis skills
- Ability to work independently and take initiative
- Strong administrative management skills
- The ability to draw up budgets
- The ability to work closely with an interdisciplinary research team
- Ability to work under pressure and to tight deadlines

The successful candidate will be the one who most closely matches the overall requirements of the post. Candidates should therefore address the above criteria in their application.