VRIJE UNIVERSITY AMSTERDAM-NRFDESMOND TUTU DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

SECOND CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Vrije University (VU) Amsterdam has established the Desmond Tutu Programme in honour of Archbishop Emeritus Desmond M. Tutu. This Programme focuses on the theme Youth, Sports and Reconciliation and aims to strengthen the co-operation between VU Amsterdam and South African Higher Education Institutions.

In support of the drive to increase the number of South African doctoral graduates, VU Amsterdam and the National Research Foundation (NRF) have introduced the Vrije University Amsterdam-NRF Desmond Tutu Doctoral Programme for South African students seeking to pursue research doctoral studies.

We invite potential South African students to apply for Vrije University Amsterdam–NRF Desmond Tutu Doctoral scholarships. The format will be a sandwich programme in which students will:

- Register and obtain their research doctoral degrees from VU Amsterdam;
- Be jointly supervised by academic researchers at VU Amsterdam and a South African Higher Education Institution;
- If required, complete required coursework for doctoral studies both in South Africa and in the Netherlands;
- Spend between one (1) and two (2) months per year over a period of four (4) years at VU Amsterdam to undertake course and thesis related work; and
- Carry out their research in South Africa.

The list of research projects, respective VU Amsterdam supervisor(s) and specific requirements are attached.

The application form can be found on the NRF website: www.nrf.ac.za and the guidelines provide further information. Complete applications are due on Wednesday, 31 March 2010.
VU UNIVERSITY AMSTERDAM-NRF
DESMOND TUTU DOCTORAL PROGRAMME
GUIDELINES

1. **Required qualifications:**

 Individuals with a research Master’s degree or in the process of completing requirements for such a degree may apply. However, applicants must have successfully completed a Master’s degree to be admitted into the programme. Please refer to the list of potential projects for specific qualification and other requirements.

2. **Funding:**

 The VU Amsterdam-NRF Desmond Tutu Doctoral Programme provides funding for up to four (4) years of study, depending on satisfactory progress each year. The doctoral scholarship will cover:

- Two economy return flights from South Africa to Amsterdam per year;
- Accommodation and living allowance in Amsterdam (for up to two one-month visits each year);
- A scholarship to the value of R70 000 each year toward doctoral study costs in South Africa; and

In addition to the above, a contribution toward the public doctoral dissertation defense costs will be provided.

3. **Citizenship and residency status:**

 Applicants must be South African citizens or permanent residents.

4. **Commencement of studies:**

 Successful applicants in this cycle may commence with their doctoral studies from September 2010, at any time within the VU Amsterdam 2010/11 academic year.

5. **Dependants:**

 The NRF and VU Amsterdam are not responsible for dependants accompanying a scholarship holder to Amsterdam.

6. **Application forms:**

 Application forms are available from the NRF website: [www.nrf.ac.za](http://www.nrf.ac.za)

7. **Closing date for applications:**

 The closing date for applications and all required documents (applications, copies of transcripts and certificates, and reference letters) is **Wednesday, 31 March 2010**

 *No requests for extension will be considered.*
8. **Selection procedures:**

All applications will be reviewed by a selection committee and short-listed candidates will be invited for telephonic interviews or face-to-face interviews. Where applicable, the NRF will arrange and cover travel costs for short-listed candidates.

9. **Format of application and required documentation:**

Completed typed applications must include the following documents:

- Application form;
- Certified copy of South African Identity Document;
- Certified copy of academic transcripts; and
- Certified copies of all degree certificates.
- Two letters of reference

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

10. **Queries:**

For further information on potential research projects and other matters in relation to this programme, please contact Ms Danielle Nel at telephone number 012 481 4191 or by e-mail to danielle.nel@nrf.ac.za.