Postdoctoral Fellowships at the Rutgers School of Social Work

Rutgers University School of Social Work seeks postdoctoral scholars to join our productive faculty in continued expansion of the School’s innovative programs, centers and institutes. We plan to add 2 postdoctoral scholars with a start date in January or July 2016, for a period of one to two years. We seek highly productive scholars, entrepreneurial and innovative thinkers, and engaged colleagues, with a strong commitment to social justice, public education and to social work research. Candidates from groups underrepresented in higher education are strongly encouraged to apply to be a part of our supportive and dynamic community of scholars.

The successful candidates should be highly motivated, interested in collegial relationships with faculty and doctoral students at the School and with other disciplines, and committed to advancing the reputation of the School, and working within a positive, energetic, and supportive environment. The 2 positions will be housed in our school’s Center on Violence Against Women & Children (VAWC) and in our new Research Unit on Child Welfare and Well-Being.

**The Center on Violence Against Women & Children (VAWC)** was recently cited by The White House as “a leading research institute” and provides a unique, supportive, and rich educational environment for students at the undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral levels, as well as for recent graduates through post-doctoral positions. Because VAWC is engaged in a number of diverse research projects related to violence against women and children, there are ample opportunities for post-doctoral fellows to participate in primary and secondary data collection and analysis with particular attention given to disseminating results through peer-reviewed manuscripts and conferences. VAWC has been involved with various types of research projects, ranging from federally funded, randomized control trials to local, community-based program evaluations. Successful candidates must have excellent and advanced data analysis skills to be used with quantitative and qualitative datasets. Experience working with longitudinal datasets is preferred. Additionally, candidates must have a solid understanding of research on violence against women and children. Grant writing experience, though not required, would be preferred in any application for this position.

**The Research Unit on Child Welfare and Well-Being** is seeking a postdoctoral fellow to participate in the research and intellectual life of the Unit and of the School, and to collaborate with the Institute for the Study of Child Development in the medical school.
Currently funded studies include a research partnership with the NJ Department of Children and Families, a WT Grant Foundation supported project on the developmental trajectories of children in the child welfare system, and a series of NIH funded longitudinal studies with time-frames spanning up to 20 years of developmental data. The mentoring team of professors Michael MacKenzie, Emily Bosk, and Michael Lewis also includes access to and experience with several national longitudinal studies including the Fragile Families Study, NSCAW, and LONGSCAN. The successful candidate will demonstrate potential for a successful career in research, with promising research skills and achievements given prior training and opportunities for development. The ideal candidate would supplement the current child welfare strength areas of the unit to expand the breadth of examinations into areas such as school outcomes, implementation science, racial disparities, justice system, and trauma. This opportunity could be particularly well-suited for candidates with interdisciplinary training.

Rutgers is a major research institution and our faculty enjoy significant research ties with numerous, nationally known, university centers and institutes. Rutgers is a member of the Association of American Universities (AAU) a federation of 62 leading research universities in the United States and Canada, and of the CIC (Committee on Institutional Cooperation) an academic consortium of Big 10 universities that collectively engage in over 8.4 billion dollars in funded research each year. The School of Social Work’s externally funded portfolio exceeds 31 million dollars, with some 13 million in yearly expenditures. The School of Social Work is a collegial, productive and motivated faculty. A recent analysis using Academic Analytics found the Rutgers Social Work PhD faculty to be the third most productive in publications, citations, and research among social work faculty in the United States.

New Jersey is one of the most diverse states, and Rutgers one of the most diverse student bodies, in the country. The school is deeply committed to principles of diversity and actively encourages applications from groups underrepresented in higher education. The school’s commitment extends beyond simply increasing diversity in the faculty pipeline, to include broad faculty support for a strong set of mentoring and retention efforts aimed at launching and supporting the development of successful research careers.

Please apply by submitting a letter of interest, curriculum vita and reference list. Those interested in the Center on Violence Against Women & Children position should submit materials to Dr. Judy L. Postmus (postmus@ssw.rutgers.edu). Those interested in the Child Welfare and Well-Being group position should submit materials to Dr. Michael MacKenzie (michael.mackenzie@rutgers.edu).