

MASTERS AND POST-DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES 2018

Exploring the co-creation of local wild food livelihoods in the Cederberg mountains

A post-doctoral scholarship and Masters bursary are on offer to those interested in engaged scholarship and interdisciplinary research on wild food livelihoods. Successful candidates would join a vibrant team participating in an exciting project focused on the co-creation of local wild food livelihoods in the Cederberg mountains of the Western Cape.

The three-year project is funded from 2017 by the National Research Foundation under its Community Engagement Programme. The collaboration includes UCT's Department of Archaeology, UCT's Bio-economy SARChI Chair in the Department of Environmental and Geographical Science, Making Kos, Cape Nature and local residents of the Cederberg.

The aim is to jointly research, develop and document this co-creation process and thus interrogate the different ways in which knowledge is produced and used across the academic-community spectrum, and the interplay between research and practice. By embedding research in engaged scholarship, and recognising the importance of involving local informants in all aspects of its design and execution, this project sets out to avoid the often unidirectional, 'extractivist' nature of research or development projects involving knowledge holders.

Research opportunities could include:

- (a) an exploration of the co-creation process, including implications for sustainable livelihoods;
- (b) approaches towards the identification and cultivation of suitable wild foods;
- (c) intellectual property considerations of commercializing wild foods;
- (d) the continuity of plant utilisation between the Later Stone Age and present Cederberg communities.

Innovative ideas for additional topics would also be welcomed.

The Masters studentship offers a total of R 70,000 per year over 2 years, with fieldwork and travel expenses additional to this. Students are expected to commence studies in January 2018.

The post-doctoral fellowship offers up to R 200,000 per year over 2 years. Fieldwork and travel expenses would be additional to this. This position is available from immediate effect, but a later start date is also possible.

Applications are welcome from those holding degrees in archaeology, anthropology, environmental science, development studies, botany, human geography, law, sociology, or related fields. The Masters scholarship is restricted to South African citizens but the post-doctoral scholarship is open to all nationalities.

Interested? Please send a CV, letter of motivation and the names and contact details of two referees to fahdelah.hartley@uct.ac.za by 31 October 2017.

*Further queries please contact
Prof John Parkington: john.parkington@uct.ac.za or
A/Prof Rachel Wynberg: rachel.wynberg@uct.ac.za*

See also: <http://bio-economy.org.za/wild-foods/>