Alex Trebek Postdoctoral Fellowship, Water Law and Governance at the University of Ottawa’s Centre on Governance and Centre for Environmental Law and Global Sustainability

Posted on June 8, 2020

Type: Postdoctoral Fellowship

Start date: Flexible (but ideally September 1, 2020)

Duration: Two-year fellowship (with possibility of a one-year renewal)

Salary range: $45,000, plus benefits

Reports to: Professors Eric Champagne (Centre on Governance), Heather McLeod-Kilmurray and Nathalie Chalifour (Centre for Environmental Law and Global Sustainability).

Fellowship Description:

We are seeking a skilled and enthusiastic Postdoctoral Fellow to pursue an innovative research program focused on the legal and governance aspects of issues relating to water in the Canadian context as part of the new Alex Trebek Forum for Dialogue’s Project on Water Law and Governance.

The successful candidate will be supervised throughout the postdoctoral fellowship by leading legal and political science scholars from the University of Ottawa, affiliated with the University’s Centre for Environmental Law and Global Sustainability, the Centre on Governance and the Public Law Centre.

Applicants are encouraged to propose creative ideas for a postdoctoral fellowship in law and/or governance, emphasising how they plan to contribute to new knowledge on governance and legal issues relating to water in Canada. We are particularly interested in proposals focused on climate change and sustainability, governance mechanisms, public management, social policy and urban and territorial development.

In addition to 20 hours per week dedicated to the Alex Trebek Forum for Dialogue’s Project on Water Law and Governance, the selected candidate will be expected to carry her postdoctoral research project, publish in peer-reviewed journals, present at international, national and local conferences (including online), contribute to the other projects of the Centre for Environmental Law and Global Sustainability and the Centre on Governance and contribute to the dissemination of the Centres’ work.

About the project:

The Alex Trebek Forum for Dialogue’s Water Law and Governance Project is a joint project of the University of Ottawa’s Public Law Centre, the Centre for Environmental Law and Global Sustainability and the Centre on Governance. It is a multidisciplinary, plurijural project to foster
dialogue between scholars, governmental actors, interest groups and the general public in order to identify the most pressing public policy concerns in relation to water and learn from different actors’ perspectives on them (academic, governmental, Indigenous, individual).

The project aims to use water as a lens to identify problems created by climate change and their ramifications and make multi-level recommendations (national – including international relations – provincial, municipal, local and individual).

To achieve these objectives, the selected Postdoctoral Fellow will assist the Centres in:

- Creating a forum to bring together academics from various disciplines, as well as governmental actors and interest groups to foster dialogue;
- Identifying cross-cutting issues which require further research, propose solutions and strategies for their implementation, and make policy recommendations.

The selected Postdoctoral Fellow will assist the three Centres in organizing 2 events per year (round tables, public conferences and workshops under Chatham house rules).

**Position Requirements**

- Doctoral degree in law, in public administration, in public policy or in political science (or completion expected within the next six months from June 1, 2020) in the following fields: or policies, international affairs, climate change, water law, management or policies, international development, environmental law or policies, multi-level governance or federalism, urban and territorial planning.

(Preference will be given to bilingual (English, French) candidates with doctorates awarded in the last 5 years.)

- Research experience, preferably in law, public sector management or public policy.
- Computer and technology proficient.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Comfortable to work in a self-directed manner.

Additionally, the following skills will be considered as assets:

- Scholarship on the relevant topics.
- Experience with knowledge mobilization.
- Experience in reading and writing for major academic journals.
- Experience at attending professional conferences in the candidate’s field.

*If the start date for this position is affected either by the candidate being under COVID-19-related travel restrictions or the campus being closed, remote working options can be negotiated.*
How to apply

APPLICATION ONLINE VIA EMAIL: fgasc044@uottawa.ca

The application package should clearly identify which of the two Alex Trebek postdoctoral fellowships on Water Law and Governance (or both, if applicable) the candidate wishes to apply for and must include:

- a cover letter,
- a complete curriculum vitae,
- a one-page (max.) description of research interests relevant for this position,
- a two-page (max.) postdoctoral project proposal setting out how the candidate intends to use the postdoctoral fellowship to advance their research interests.

Deadline for applications is June 30, 2020.

The selection committee will start to review applications on July 1. Applications will be considered until a successful candidate is found. We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those under consideration for the role will be contacted.

The cover letter shall indicate the level of proficiency in English and French.

The University of Ottawa is an equal opportunity employer. We strongly encourage applications from women, Indigenous people, persons with disabilities and members of visible minorities.

In keeping with Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada requirements, all qualified persons are invited to apply; however, preference will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents. The cover letter should confirm the immigration status of the candidate.