LondonDoctoralDesignCentre

LDoc Creative Economy Engagement Fellowships

LDoc And The Creative Economy

The London Doctoral Training Centre (LDoc) is a specialist doctoral training centre that focuses on Design research for innovation in business, social and community contexts. A collaboration between three of the UK's leading Design research universities: Kingston University, the University of the Arts London and the Royal College of Art, LDoc works with a number of partner organisations, including Sense (the national deafblind charity), TfL and The Design Museum developing practical, real-world projects led by doctoral students. Together these demonstrate different ways in which Design acts as a driver of innovation and creativity in business, in societal and community contexts, and in policymaking.

The LDoc doctoral projects exemplify how Design is inherently inter-disciplinary and industry focused, making it a potent bridge across creative and STEM disciplines. In this way, the LDoc training centre enables research-led impact across the creative economy, and impacts the full range of industrial sectors, from healthcare and biotechnology to robotics and computer science. The LDoc partnership champions the need to equip early career researchers with skills that can enhance the creative economies within a changing landscape.

Fellowship Vision: Textile Production Innovation in the UK Circular Economy

Topics

- Digital finishing of non-woven textiles for enhanced sustainability
- Re-distributed production models
- New methods for local, digital manufacturing
- Modelling, communication and curation approaches to map existing innovation

Contribution

This research fellowship will focus on the potential for development of emerging digitally driven production methods to improve the sustainability credentials of textile finishing production. The fellowship will fuse two specific areas: research into the benefits of a re-distributed production system in the context of the circular economy, and the development of new digitally driven finishing techniques to improve the uptake of non-woven textiles in the fashion industry. Nonwovens have been cited in a recent study (Mistra Future Fashion, 2017 http://mistrafuturefashion.com/) as substantially reducing the impact of textile production during the fabric construction phase (as compared with knitted or woven textiles), with further savings to be made by incorporating the garment production phase into an integrated

LondonDoctoralDesignCentre

process.

This project combines these findings from environmental science and the exploration of new process development to identify a potential new direction for research into sustainable production in the UK across a broad range of existing material sources, including both bio-based and synthetic nonwoven substrates which can either be efficiently recycled at end of life or industrially composted.

Key skills

- Textile Design practice based research skills
- Digital CAD/CAM knowledge
- Familiarity with design & the Circular Economy
- Familiarity with digital production literature and case studies
- Ability to engage with industry & technology partners
  Experience in creating models, communication and curation approaches for research and innovation projects and outcomes

Further Details

Six months fixed term

Full time (35 hours per week)

Primarily based at Chelsea College of Arts, University of the Arts London

Fellowship contact: Rebecca Earley (r.earley@arts.ac.uk)

Deadline for applications: 20th November 2018

Please submit applications to researchdegrees@arts.ac.uk

Starting date: Tuesday 2nd January 2018

Benefits Of An LDoc Creative Economy Engagement Fellowship
- Opportunity to undertake a short research project as part of a design research consortium that offer research expertise and a strong network of business, industry and cultural partners
- Mentor (with an academic or industry/leadership focus)
- Opportunities to mentor/supervise a current PhD student
- Career development support

LondonDoctoralDesignCentre

- Opportunities to present work and contribute to a publication to showcase the impact of LDoc's design research projects
- LDoc organised events enabling networking and idea sharing
- Early career researcher training
- £36,102 to £39,197 per annum, pro rata salary
- Up to £5,000 contribution to travel, conferences, and research outputs
- Work space and studio access
- IT provision and library access

How Fellowships Will Be Selected

1. Applicants should submit a completed Application Form and Equal Opportunities Form to the fellowship contact by the deadline.
2. Applications will be scored by the criteria outlined Application Form, using the AHRC grading criteria, and the applicants with the highest scores will be invited to interview.
3. The successful applicant will be offered the position by 7th December, and will need to confirm their acceptance by 13th December.

Eligibility

We will need to see proof of eligibility to work in the UK before any offer of employment can be made.

The AHRC defines an Early Career Researcher as: an individual who is within 8 years of the award of their PhD or equivalent professional training, or an individual who is within 6 years of their first academic appointment. These durations exclude any period of career break eg for family care or health reasons. The first academic appointment is defined as the first paid contract of employment, either full-time or part-time, which lists research and/or teaching as the primary functions functions:
http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/skills/earlycareerresearchers/definitionofeligibility/