Call for Visiting Fellows

Fall Term 2020
The National Center of Competence in Research nccr – on the move aims to enhance the understanding of contemporary phenomena related to migration and mobility in Switzerland and beyond. Connecting disciplines, the NCCR brings together research projects from demography, economics, law, psychology, and social sciences. Managed from the University of Neuchâtel, the network comprises eleven universities in Switzerland.

Short-Term Visiting Fellowships

The nccr – on the move wishes to encourage its network members to connect with research teams abroad. We are therefore setting up short-term visiting fellowships that are available to outgoing fellows. The grants are explicitly not a salary: instead, they are meant to cover travel, room and board expenses during the stay abroad.

The outgoing fellowship scheme is aimed at nccr – on the move PostDocs and doctoral students who wish to go abroad for a maximum of five months. The NCCR contributes a maximum amount of CHF 10,000 towards the stay abroad, whereby the maximum monthly installment is set at CHF 3,000. In addition, the grant covers the cost of an outward and return journey to the host institution. We ask the nccr – on the move fellows seeking to go abroad for six months or more to apply for the official SNSF NCCR Mobility Grants, which have been created for NCCR collaborators wishing to go abroad. The Network Office can provide you with the documentation, further information and assistance in applying for these grants.

During the visit, the outgoing fellows pursue a small joint research project in collaboration with the research team hosting them. Research projects can either be joint project submissions, the preparation and / or realization of a workshop or a joint publication.

Based on the present call, the fellowships will be awarded by the nccr – on the move Scientific Committee in July 2020.

Eligibility

The outgoing nccr – on the move PostDocs or doctoral students need to fulfill the following requirements:

- be enrolled in the NCCR doctoral program and / or be employed at one of the partner universities as a Postdoctoral researcher or doctoral student affiliated to the nccr – on the move;
- present an approval letter by the concerned Project Leader;
- have valid health insurance which covers their destination country by the time they start their fellowship;
- present a formal invitation letter by a professor or senior lecturer working at the host institution;
- present their research conducted in the framework of the nccr – on the move in an appropriate setting in the partner institution (colloquium, lecture series, talk, etc.);
- present a research plan that illustrates potential synergies and collaborations with the work undertaken in the chosen partner institution.

Application Procedure

To apply for the visiting fellowship the applicant has to submit the following documents:

- curriculum vitae;
- confirmation that he / she is employed at a University and / or is enrolled in doctoral training;
- proof of valid health insurance (e.g. European Health Insurance Card);
- list of publications;
- approval letter by concerned nccr – on the move Project Leader
- formal invitation letter by a professor or senior lecturer working at the host institution.
- motivation letter (1 page) explaining why the applicant wants to join the partner institution;
- research plan (2 pages) explaining what the research conducted shall be about, what kind of research cooperation with the partner institution is envisaged and what the possible output could look like (e.g. possible publications, organization of a workshop, joint project submission, etc.).

Please send your application including the above mentioned additional information to Robin Stünzi, Deputy Scientific Officer of the nccr – on the move, (robin.stunzi@nccr-onthemove.ch).

Deadline for application is 5 July 2020.
Selection Procedure

Decision-Making Body
The project proposal will be evaluated by the members of the NCCR Scientific Committee. The committee will take the decision on the fellowships by mid-July 2020. The fellowships will officially begin in September, October, or November 2020 depending on the availability of the concerned researchers.

Evaluation Criteria
– All formal requirements are met (see conditions under eligibility)
– Quality of the proposed research plan
– Synergies with respect to the nccr – on the move research agenda
– Academic potential of the applicant and benefits of the proposed cooperation for the nccr – on the move (publications, project submissions etc.)
– Fair distribution of fellowships among the partner institutions and disciplines making up the nccr – on the move (to avoid competition within the network)
– Scientific track-record of the applicant