Research Fellow
Centre for Health Economics

Closing date: 26 November 2017
Interview date: to be confirmed
Vacancy reference: 6125
INTRODUCTION

As part of ongoing efforts to progress the global health economics related activities at the Centre for Health Economics (CHE), we wish to appoint Research Fellows at Grade 6/7 to work on a long-term research programme recently awarded through the RCUK Collective Fund ‘Growing Capability’ Award titled: GCRF Thanzi la Onse (Health of All), in collaboration with partners in the UK, Malawi and Uganda. The programme centres on supporting health policy and health care resource allocation decisions in sub-Saharan Africa, and involves collaboration with specialists in epidemiology and modelling, as well as politics and governance.

Candidates should have strong quantitative skills and expertise and experience in health economics, as well as with interest and/or experience of health care issues facing low- and middle-income countries (in particular in sub-Saharan Africa). They will join a team of health economics researchers interested and specialising in global health and working in the fields of economic evaluation, public policy and econometrics.

The role is based at the Centre for Health Economics, although the appointee may be required to undertake annual research visits to Malawi and/or Uganda.
Main purpose of the role

- To conduct research under the supervision of senior colleagues and to contribute to the production of research
- To assist in the identification and development of potential areas of research and the development of proposals for independent or collaborative research projects

Key responsibilities

(Role holders will be required to undertake some or all of the duties below)

- To conduct individual and collaborative research projects, duties to include: analysis and interpretation of research data; use of appropriate research techniques and methods; writing up of research results and dissemination through publications, seminar and conference presentations and public engagement and outreach activities; contributing to the identification of possible new areas of research
- To undertake appropriate organisational and administrative activities connected to the research project, including conference organisation, and the development of promotional or educational material including website maintenance and development
- To develop and initiate collaborative working internally and externally, duties to include: the building of internal contacts and participation in internal networks; collaboration with colleagues on joint projects as required; participation in and identification of external networks in order to share information and identify potential opportunities for collaboration and possible sources of funding; attendance at and contribution to relevant meetings
- To provide guidance to other staff and students, as required, as well as coordinating the work of small research teams
- To contribute to the preparation of research proposals and applications to external bodies
- The role may include annual research visits to Malawi and/or Uganda

In addition, at Grade 7:

- Supervise the research activities of less experienced colleagues, providing expert advice and guidance
- Participate actively in the planning and management of research projects more generally (e.g. communication with relevant stakeholders)
- Lead on or contribute to the leadership of the production of research outputs and research outcomes
- Attend departmental meetings as required and undertake appropriate managerial and administrative tasks in connection with the research activity
PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<tr>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>Grade 6</th>
<th>Grade 7</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master's degree in economics, with a significant focus on health economics and/or industrial organization</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>PhD or equivalent experience in economics, with a significant focus on health economics and/or industrial organization</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledge in relevant areas of economics to engage in high quality research</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledge of a range of research techniques and methodologies</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Has research expertise in an area that will complement and enhance the department and GCRF Thanzi al Onse programme’s research strategy and goals</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<th>Skills, abilities and competencies</th>
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<tr>
<td>Highly developed communication skills: ability to write up research work for publication in high profile journals, make presentations at conferences and engage in public dissemination</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to develop research objectives, projects and proposals for own and joint research, with the assistance of a mentor if required</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to extend, transform and apply knowledge acquired from scholarship to research and appropriate external activities</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ability to identify sources of funding and contribute to the process of securing funds, with collaborators if required</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to lead and/or take responsibility for a small research project or identified parts of a large project</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to supervise the work of others, for example in research teams projects or students</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to engage with project stakeholders</td>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Well-developed analytical skills including strong quantitative background</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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## PERSON SPECIFICATION

### Experience

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<tr>
<th>Experience</th>
<th>Grade 6</th>
<th>Grade 7</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Working in health economics, with particular focus on economic evaluation and / or Industrial Organization</td>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conducting research in global health</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Undertaking analysis relating to health or health policy</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carrying out both independent and collaborative research</td>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Writing up and publishing research</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Developing and/or delivering training/teaching materials</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<td>Evidence of active participation in the planning and advancement of collaborative research projects</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Successful management of research projects including supervision of the work of others and providing expert advice and guidance to teams</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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### Personal attributes

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<tr>
<td>Interest in and enthusiasm for GCRF Thanzi la Onse subject matter, and commitment to advancing the field of global health</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Attention to detail and commitment to high quality</td>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to work as part of a team and also to work independently using own initiative, to plan and prioritise own work in order to meet deadlines</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Willingness to work proactively with colleagues in other work areas/institutions</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Commitment to personal development and updating of knowledge and skills</td>
<td>Essential</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<tr>
<td>Willingness to travel to sub-Sahara Africa for research visits</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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THE DEPARTMENT

Centre for Health Economics:
The Centre for Health Economics (CHE) was established at the University of York in 1983, and was one of the world’s first research institutes dedicated to the study of the economics of health and health care. It rapidly established a leading international reputation, and is now one of the world’s largest health economics research centres. In a ranking of the top 100 institutions in health economics in the world, the University of York has been ranked 7th and the highest European institution.

We have a 30 year track record in delivering high quality policy-relevant research which makes a difference to society. We maintain high scientific standards and place a premium on the rigour and quality of our work. Our mission is to be a globally recognised research centre, committed to the development and application of the discipline of economics in order to promote health and wellbeing through the effective, efficient and equitable use of scarce resources.

Research:
The defining characteristics of CHE’s research are:

Methods rigour: CHE’s research is distinguished by a major focus on the development and application of advanced methods and analytical techniques to address important and complex questions.

Policy focus: We aim to inform and influence health policy and practice, nationally and internationally.

Engagement: We work alongside decision-makers, practitioners and academic colleagues to prioritise, design and deliver timely research which is communicated effectively to relevant users in accessible formats, including a range of teaching and training activities.

Excellence: We have a long track record of producing high quality research, spanning 30 years, within a leading UK institution and in one of the world’s top 100 universities.

The core research themes covered by CHE are:

- Economic evaluation of health technologies
- Econometric methods
- Equity in health and health care
- Health and social care
- Health policy
- Global health
- Public Health

Further details of the projects and topics within the core themes can be found on our website: [http://www.york.ac.uk/che/research/](http://www.york.ac.uk/che/research/)

Global health:
CHE’s activities in the economics of global health have recently expanded and developed. The research spans across a range of themes. Recent and ongoing externally funded research includes, for instance, the estimation of relevant cost-effectiveness thresholds in low and middle income countries (LMICs), health benefits package design, economic evaluation of HIV policies, evaluating investments in new product development, the evaluation of fiscal policies to improve diet,
analysis of levels and determinants of efficiency in health systems, and the impacts of development assistance for health on domestic resource allocation and health outcomes.

Our work in these and other areas is in collaboration with other academic groups in the UK and overseas and policy institutes such as, amongst others, the World Health Organization, the World Bank, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

The aim of the global health economics work is to further diversify the research to encompass the full range of research areas in CHE. Further details on global health research: [http://www.york.ac.uk/che/research/global-health/](http://www.york.ac.uk/che/research/global-health/)

**GCRF Thanzi la Onse (Health of All) programme:**

Thanzi la Onse (TLO) is funded through the RCUK Collective Fund ‘Growing Capability’ Award, and led by CHE with partners based in the UK, Malawi and Uganda. The primary objective of the programme is to improve population health and reduce health inequalities by enhancing the efficiency and equity of health care provision through data-informed prioritisation of resource allocation in low-income settings.

Research activities fall under three research themes: Epidemiology & Modelling – led by Imperial and University Colleges London; Health Economics – led by CHE; and Politics & Governance – led by the Overseas Development Institute and York's Department of Politics. The successful candidate will contribute to the economics theme, take a key role in one or more of the following areas: industrial organisation applied to health systems and institutions; applying and developing the methods of economic evaluation to policy challenges in sub-Saharan Africa; analysis on the equity implications of resource allocation policy.


**Our impact:**

CHE’s researchers play a leading role in many national and international societies and make high-profile presentations at scientific meetings across the world. CHE has a very strong policy impact both nationally and internationally. Within the UK, examples include work at the most senior level with policy formulation in the Department of Health and its devolved equivalents, HM Treasury, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, the Office for National Statistics, Cabinet Office and Home Office.

Internationally, its researchers have worked at a senior level with many national ministries and health care agencies, in countries in every continent, and with international organizations including the World Health Organisation, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the European Commission and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Staff at CHE publish in the leading international journals in their field, and the two leading health economics journals are edited from York.

The world leading research undertaken by the Centre for Health Economics has been recognised by the University of York’s ranking as equal 7th in the country for Public Health, Health Services and Primary Care in the national assessment of the quality and impact of research in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF). CHE was part of the submission made jointly with the Department of Health Sciences, the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination and the Hull-York Medical School. The results published on 18 December 2014,
showed that 83% of the research submitted was rated as world leading or internationally excellent. The impact of our research on society and citizens was also rated equal 7th, and we were ranked equal first for research environment, one that is conducive to producing research of world-leading quality, in terms of vitality and sustainability. The University of York as a whole performed well in the latest REF, being ranked 14th overall and 10th for the impact of its research.

The University of York offers scope for many fruitful collaborations and CHE has strong links, via joint interests, research projects and appointments, with several departments including the Department of Economics and Related Studies, the Department of Health Sciences, the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, the Hull-York Medical School, the Department of Biology and the Social Policy Research Unit.

In 2007, the University of York was awarded the Queen’s Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education, in recognition of the contribution health economics research has made to the way society thinks about health and health care over the last 25 years.

**Teaching and training:**

CHE attracts over 300 people a year from all over the world to be trained in the methods developed by our researchers. The York Expert Workshops in the socio-economic evaluation of medicines has been running for over 20 years and comprises three residential workshops aimed at decision-makers and academics: https://www.york.ac.uk/che/courses/york-summer-workshops/. We run a further three courses focusing on methods and applied research methods: https://www.york.ac.uk/che/courses/

There are currently 10 PhD students based at CHE, supervised by our staff and registered either in the Department of Economics and Related Studies or in the Department of Health Sciences. We run an active visitor programme, hosting around 20 visitors each year from all over the world and offering the Alan Williams Fellowship programme to support visits from early and mid-career researchers.

**Athena SWAN:**

At CHE we strive to provide a supportive and family friendly work environment and to offer equal opportunities to all staff members. We have an Athena SWAN bronze award which recognises our commitment to good practice in recruiting, retaining and supporting the careers of women. We will continue to build on this success by further improving our processes and ensure fair, flexible, accessible and transparent working conditions for all members of staff.

See: https://www.york.ac.uk/che/equality-and-diversity/#tab-2

Further information about the department is available at: http://www.york.ac.uk/che/
THE UNIVERSITY

Founded on principles of excellence, equality and opportunity for all, the University of York opened in 1963 with just 230 students. In 2017 it is the home of more than 17,000 students across more than 30 academic departments and research centres. Since opening over fifty years ago, we have become one of the world’s leading universities and a member of the prestigious Russell Group.

We are consistently recognised as one of the leading Higher Education Institutes and one of just six post-war universities which appear in the world top 100 (2013-14) and 15th in the Times & Sunday Times league table (2016). The University of York has won six Times Higher Education (THE) Awards and five Queen’s Anniversary Prizes.

The University is proud of its association with Athena SWAN, holding 12 awards in support of gender equality, representation and success for all, with gold awards for Chemistry and Biology and a University-wide bronze award.

Of 154 universities that took part in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) in 2014, The University of York ranked 14th overall and 10th for the impact of our research. The University is consistently in the top ten UK research universities and attracts over £60m a year of funding from research alone.

Our vision is to make the University of York a world leader in the creation of knowledge through fundamental and applied research, the sharing of knowledge by teaching students from varied backgrounds and the application of knowledge for the health, prosperity and well-being of people and society.
Attractive workplace

Centred around the picturesque village of Heslington on the edge of the city of York, our colleges are set in an attractive landscaped campus. York enjoys a safe, friendly atmosphere with facilities including bars, shops, theatres and concert halls all within easy walking distance.

The University has undergone an unprecedented period of expansion and renewal since 2000. We have invested in twenty new buildings on the original campus and have completed the first and second phases of a £750m campus expansion. Our investment in new colleges, teaching and learning spaces, laboratories, research facilities and a new sports village mean there has never been a better time to join us.

During this period of change we've worked hard to retain our friendly, informal and collegiate atmosphere, which is important to our core values of inclusivity and interdisciplinarity.

We have a thriving international community and are committed to providing staff moving to York with as much support as possible through our Relocation Package and Welcome Officers.

The University aims to offer a nurturing and supportive environment as an employer. Flexible working hours, nursery facilities, childcare vouchers, cycle to work scheme, generous holidays and an attractive pension scheme all make the University of York one of the region’s leading employers.

For further information please visit our employee benefit pages.
THE CITY AND THE REGION

The City of York

Internationally acclaimed for its rich heritage and historic architecture, York’s bustling streets are filled with visitors from all over the world. Within its medieval walls you will find the iconic gothic Minster, Clifford’s Tower and the Shambles - just a few of the many attractions.

But York isn’t just a great place to visit - it's also a great place to live and work. While nourishing a vibrant cosmopolitan atmosphere, York still maintains the friendly sense of community unique to a small city.

Visit www.visityork.org for more information on the city of York.

Shopping, culture and entertainment

York boasts specialist and unique boutiques but also all the high street stores on its busy shopping streets. Alongside them you will find cinemas, theatres, an opera house, art galleries, a vast range of restaurants, live music venues and clubs. York is particularly renowned for its multitude of pubs and bars, from the modern to the medieval.

Housing and schools

Whether you choose to live close to the city, in one of the surrounding villages or further afield, you will find a wide range of housing within comfortable distance of York and the University. For families, the area has a range of excellent schools both in the state and independent sector.

Great location

York is one of Britain’s best-connected cities. Halfway between London and Edinburgh on the East Coast mainline, on intercity trains you can reach London King’s Cross in less than two hours and Edinburgh in two and a half hours. York is also well served by road links, and it is easily accessible from the A1, M1 and the M62.

For those travelling from overseas, Manchester Airport is two hours away and Heathrow Airport just three and a half. Flights from nearby Leeds Bradford Airport provide easy access to mainland Europe. By Eurostar from London St Pancras, Paris is just over six hours away.

Yorkshire

The Lonely Planet guide recently declared Yorkshire the third best region in the world to visit. There is something to cater to every taste, whether it be the rugged landscapes of the Moors or the Dales, the picturesque seaside towns of Scarborough and Robin Hoods Bay, the gothic architecture of Whitby or the vibrancy of cosmopolitan Leeds.
Apply online

- Go to https://jobs.york.ac.uk
- Find this job using reference 6125
- Complete the online application form

You will need to submit your completed application by midnight (local UK time) on 26 November 2017

What will I need?

You will need to upload:
- your CV
- a letter describing how you meet the requirements of the job

You will also need details of 2 referees.

Help and assistance

Direct any informal queries to paul.revill@york.ac.uk or trish.smith@york.ac.uk

If you have any questions about your application, contact the HR Services team:

recruitment@york.ac.uk
+44 (0)1904 324835