Call for Applications: Master's and Doctoral scholarships for full-time studies in 2019 for the Knowledge for Innovation – Digital Skills Project

1. Project Background

NEMISA (becoming iNeSI) has a mandate to develop capacity in South Africa to ensure that South Africans have the necessary digital skills (e-skills) to participate in a digital economy that is driven by rapidly advancing technologies.

Programme 4 of NEMISA “Knowledge for Innovation (K4I)” aims to “provide the evidence-based basis, through research and other available means, for decisions on how to innovatively address the opportunities and systemic challenges in achieving digital skills capacity in South Africa”.

The evidence-based research will be conducted through regular environmental scans as a starting point and as an ongoing practice that ensures that the identified digital skills remain relevant to the changing needs of society. The School of Computing (SOC) at University of South Africa (UNISA) is currently managing the K4I project in conjunction with NEMISA.

2. Call for Applications

The SOC has initiated the call for applications for master's (x1) and doctoral (x1) scholarships for full-time studies in 2019 for students to undertake research projects within the K4I project. The scholarships are intended to support master’s and doctoral candidates to pursue research studies in the area of digital skills. The students will work with the K4I team and assigned supervisors to finalise the research topic. The students will be expected to professionally conduct and publish research under the guidance of a research supervisor.
a. **Value of Sponsorship**
   - The Master’s Sponsorship: R 120 000 per annum for 2 years.
   - The Doctoral Sponsorship: R 180 000 per annum for 3 years.

**Note:** The scholarships are annually evaluated and renewable. Renewal is not automatic but based on satisfactory performance.

b. **Eligibility Criteria**
   - Preference will be given to South African citizens and members of designated groups.
   - Students applying for the Master’s sponsorship must be in possession of an Honours qualification in Information Systems or Computer Science or related field from a recognised higher education institution.
   - Students applying for the Doctoral sponsorship must be in possession of a Master’s qualification in Information Systems or Computer Science or related field from a recognised higher education institution.
   - Applicants must have an interest in conducting research in the field of digital skills and ICT for development.
   - Applicants must be available to conduct the research study on a full-time basis and will be based at the UNISA Science Campus in Florida-Roodepoort.

3. **Application Process**

We invite you to submit your application for consideration by the SOC selection committee. Submit the following documents to Mrs. Kanye Rampa on rampam@unisa.ac.za:
   - Detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV)
   - Detailed list of Research Outputs
   - Copy of Qualifications
   - Copy of ID
   - Letter of motivation for the selection committee

Only shortlisted candidates will be invited for interviews.

The closing date for applications is: **22 October 2018**.

**Note:** Late and incomplete applications will be rejected. If you don’t hear from us within 3 weeks of your application, please consider your application unsuccessful. Queries may be directed to Mrs. Kanye Rampa on: rampam@unisa.ac.za / 011 670 9085