

Fully-funded, 3-year, PhD Studentship in Biostatistics

Dear All

The Centre of Biostatistics (www.ul.ie/biostatistics) at the University of Limerick is offering a 3-year, fully funded (IRCSET-PAREXEL), EU, PhD Studentship for the purpose of developing new statistical methodology for monitoring safety in Phase IV studies.

This is a ready-made, ready-to-go, project for a first class student, preferably with an MSc in Mathematical Statistics or Biostatistics or Medical Statistics. It is funded, under the Enterprise scheme, by IRCSET and the International CRO, PAREXEL.

Applicants should have a strong background in mathematical statistics and statistical programming (as in R, Fortran, and other relevant software such as Winbugs) and an interest in Biostatistical applications.

In Phase IV studies, comparisons are not protected by randomisation. Thus, these studies are observational and present with problems of selection bias, false association and inappropriate design. Then inference is based on statistical models in the realm of multiple association. There are a rich variety of designs for observational studies, which aim to recover information on the parameters of interest. The methodology addresses the *“logic of non-randomised comparisons”* and relies on the intelligent use of adjustments in appropriate underlying statistical models. The project aims to develop new methodology in this area.

The studentship is based in the Centre of Biostatistics in the University of Limerick in Ireland. The student will be supervised by Professors Gilbert MacKenzie (UL) and Victor Kiri (PAREXEL). The studentship is worth c€25k pa., of which c€16k is the student stipend. The remainder covers EU fees, travel and equipment (see www.ircset.ie for more details). The starting date is as soon as possible after appointment.

The Centre provides a pleasant working environment on the UL campus (see www.ul.ie). The project is related to and cognate with the BIO-SI project (see www.ul.ie/bio-si).

Informal inquiries, in the first instance, may be addressed to gilbert.mackenzie@ul.ie or Victor.Kiri@parexel.com. An application form for Graduate Research may be found at http://www2.ul.ie/web/WWW/Services/Research/Graduate_School. The closing date for applications is June 30th, 2010. Send completed forms to gilbert.mackenzie@ul.ie