Research Assistant/Research Associate/Research Fellow/Post-Doctoral Fellowship

The Centre for Law and Business (CLB) at the Faculty of Law of the National University of Singapore (NUS Law) and the Competition Commission of Singapore (CCS) are jointly inviting applications for the NUS CLB-CCS Fellowship. Applications are invited for suitable candidates to carry out research in the area of “Barriers to Innovative Entrepreneurship in Singapore”. The areas of research would include potential barriers to market entry, enforcement of IP protection, unequal access to public procurement and finance, and anti-competitive practices against innovative entrepreneurs. This position will be held within the CLB, at the National University of Singapore.

The appointed candidate will commence his/her Fellowship in March 2016 for a period of 12 months.

Benefits

The position will have the following privileges:

1. The appointed candidate will hold a full-time position of Research Assistant/Research Associate/Research Fellow/Post-Doctoral Fellow depending on the candidate’s qualifications, experience and expertise. The appointed candidate will be an employee at NUS Law on a one-year contract. The remuneration of the appointed candidate will range from S$30,000 to S$95,000 depending on the qualifications and experience of the candidate. This will be an all-in sum inclusive of stipends for housing and living expenses where applicable.

2. The appointed candidate will be allocated a Faculty Research and Conference Fund allowance to support his/her attendance at academic conferences.

3. The appointed candidate will be allocated shared office space within the CLB.

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1 The Competition Commission of Singapore is a statutory board set up on 1 January 2005 to administer and enforce the Competition Act (Chapter 50B). The Act prohibits anti-competitive practices that have an appreciable adverse effect on markets in Singapore, e.g., price fixing, bid-rigging and abuse of dominance.

2 Innovative entrepreneurship is the effective combination of labour, capital and knowledge to create innovative, commercially viable products to keep up with the changing demands of the market. William Baumol (2010) defines the innovative entrepreneur as one who comes up with new ideas and puts them into practice, as compared to a person who starts a new business regardless of whether similar ventures already exist.

3 This shall be research related expenses as approved jointly by the NUSCLB and CCS.
Terms of appointment

The terms of appointment under the NUS CLB-CCS Fellowship include the following:

1. Subject to the standard NUS terms as to annual leave, the appointed candidate will be in residence throughout the term of the candidate’s appointment.

2. The appointed candidate will conduct research during the term of the candidate’s appointment. Such research may include, but is not limited to, the writing of articles for publication in refereed journals, contributing to book chapters in edited collections, and preparing a monograph or other book for publication. The candidate shall grant CCS an irrevocable, worldwide, perpetual, royalty-free, non-exclusive licence to reproduce, modify or use any materials developed and/or published under the fellowship.

3. The appointed candidate will, where requested by CLB or CCS, assist in the organisation of colloquia and other competition policy and law related events for CLB or CCS.

4. The appointed candidate may be required to teach or co-teach one elective course (relating to competition policy and law) per annum during the term of his/her appointment.

5. The appointed candidate will participate in and contribute to the Reading Group or the Graduate Research Seminar for doctoral students at NUS Law.

6. The appointed candidate will present his/her research to CCS, the NUS Law’s Research Seminar Series, or other seminars hosted by CLB and CCS.

Selection criteria

The selection committee comprising of members from CLB and CCS will consider the following criteria in making an appointment:

1. The applicant must be of exceptional calibre, having attained a Masters or a doctoral degree in economics with a focus preferably on microeconomics. Applicant who has additional training or working experience with competition policy and law will be considered favourably.

2. The principal selection criterion will be the applicant’s potential for excellence in research and the proposed programme of research of the applicant. An existing record of publication in top journals or participation in research projects are examples of evidence of such potential. Existing research work in competition policy and/or law related areas will be considered favourably.

3. The selection committee will also consider the alignment of the proposed research with the research strengths and priorities of CLB and CCS.
**Research specialisation**

The appointed candidate will conduct research into the area of “Barriers to Innovative Entrepreneurship in Singapore”, including (but not limited to) potential barriers to market entry, enforcement of IP protection, unequal access to public procurement, finance and data, and anti-competitive practices against innovative entrepreneurs. Besides carrying out field research on Singapore, the candidate will also be expected to review the literature on competition policy and law and innovative entrepreneurship in Singapore and other countries, and conduct cross-country statistical analysis of the effect of competition policy and IPR protection on innovative entrepreneurial propensity, drawing on international comparative data such as the World Bank's “Cost of Doing Business”, the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (“GEM”) and the Heritage Foundation's Economic Freedom Database. The research will conclude by drawing out implications for competition policy and law from the results of the literature review, field research and statistical analysis. Candidates with post-graduate training in micro-economics and industrial organisation, and experience with statistical data analysis would be preferred.

**Application procedure**

Applicants are required to submit a detailed curriculum vitae, a research proposal in relation to the subject of sponsorship (Barriers to Innovative Entrepreneurship in Singapore), and the NUS Data Consent form for Job Applicants. The application should be supported by two references from academic referees and/or past/current employees. Applicants should arrange for their referees to send their references to the address below by the closing date. Previous experience of working or conducting research in the field of economics and public policy would be an advantage.

The closing date for the receipt of applications and references is **17 January 2016**. Applicants will be notified within two months of the deadline on the status of their applications.

All correspondence should be addressed to Mr Ariansah, Management Assistant Officer, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore, 469G Bukit Timah Road, Eu Tong Sen Building, Singapore 259776. Email: lawresearchappt@nus.edu.sg