

**Information on Postgraduate Research Scholarship - Ref: VCS-FBUS-04-20**

**Faculty: Business**

**Department: Human Resources and Organisational Behaviour**

**Lead Supervisor:**

**Professor Sian Moore**

**Project Title:**

**Mapping the global healthcare market**

**Project Description:**

**Are you concerned about the increasing role of private companies in international public healthcare? A fully-funded three-year scholarship is available for a PhD student interested in building on and expanding expertise in global healthcare.**

Increased demand as a result of demographic change and longer life expectancy and declining public revenue bases have encouraged the introduction of internal markets to public healthcare systems and in some cases the privatisation of healthcare facilities. In some countries Covid-19 has been used as an opportunity to hand contracts for medical equipment, tests, personal protective equipment (PPE), medication and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the private sector.

Health sector reform has been promoted by a rhetoric that Foreign Direct Investment and private sector investment can address poor and underfunded services through the 'efficiencies' of the market. UN Sustainable Development Goals may suggest that private provision is necessary and changes in legislation have allowed private sector providers to enter healthcare systems. The rules governing foreign investment and conditions imposed by IMF loans have forced governments to either privatise or limit the scope of public healthcare systems, which are then reinforced by loans from the World Bank and some regional investment banks which support the creation of new healthcare financial infrastructure. As a result of these concerted efforts to privatise public healthcare systems, multinational companies (MNCs) and international institutions now have a much stronger presence in them.

**We are seeking a PhD student researcher who will make a significant contribution to research and expertise in global healthcare.**

It is proposed to examine the mechanisms that MNCs have used to enter public healthcare systems and to identify ways in which they can be challenged. This will involve a country-by-country comparison of different strategies used by MNCs and international agencies. The role of private equity, the profit-generating arrangements used by MNCs and new healthcare financial architecture will be examined. The role of governments in either blocking or facilitating the entry of MNCs as well as the role of social movements in challenging these strategies will be analysed. This analysis will be mapped against developments by country and market segment, by universal accessibility and measures of quality as well as against the impact on labour of the entry of MNCs into public healthcare systems. The results will form part of a health care database which will include MNCs, international agencies, national government strategies, social movements and changes in the position of public healthcare workers. It will identify trends by country in the Global South and North and by market segment, for example, diagnostics, where impacts may be different.

The successful candidate will join the Public Services International Research Unit (PSIRU) in the Centre for Research on Employment and Work (CREW) at the University of Greenwich Business School, but will work closely with Public Services International – the global public services union. The role will link to PSI’s global program, ‘Reclaiming hope: building renewed belief in public services for a just COVID19 recovery’ and work with PSI’s health, trade union rights, economic justice and regional staff. Candidates will have an understanding of the political economy of healthcare and public services and may have experience in and knowledge of the global trade union movement or civil society advocacy. Your research will be expected to culminate with a PhD dissertation after three years.

For further information please contact the supervisor: Professor Sian Moore, s.moore@greenwich.ac.uk

**Duration: 3 years, Full-Time Study**

**Bursary available (subject to satisfactory performance):**

Year 1: £15,285      Year 2: In line with UKRI rate      Year 3: In line with UKRI rate

In addition, the successful candidate will receive a contribution to tuition fees equivalent to the university’s Home rate, currently £4,407, for the duration of their scholarship. International applicants will need to pay the remainder tuition fee for the duration of their scholarship. This fee is subject to an annual increase.

<b>Person Specification of Essential (E) or Desirable (D) requirements:</b>	
<b>Criteria:</b>	<b>E or D</b>
<b>Education and Training:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1<sup>st</sup> Class or 2<sup>nd</sup> class, First Division (Upper Second Class) Honours Degree or a taught master’s degree with a minimum average of 60% in all areas of assessment (UK or UK equivalent) in a relevant area to the proposed research project</li> </ul>	<b>E</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For those whose first language is not English and/or if from a country where English is not the majority spoken language (as recognised by the UKBA), a language proficiency score of at least IELTS 6.5 (in all elements of the test) or an equivalent UK VISA and Immigration secure English Language Test is required, unless the degree above was taught in English <b>and</b> obtained in a majority English speaking country, e.g. UK, USA, Australia, New Zealand, etc, as recognised by the UKBA.</li> </ul>	<b>E</b>
<b>Experience &amp; Skills:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Previous experience of undertaking research (e.g. undergraduate or taught master’s dissertation)</li> </ul>	<b>E</b>
<b>Personal Attributes:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understands the fundamental differences between a taught degree and a research degree in terms of approach and personal discipline/motivation</li> </ul>	<b>E</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Able to, under guidance, complete independent work successfully</li> </ul>	<b>E</b>
<b>Other Requirements:</b>	

• This scholarship may require Academic Technology Approval Scheme approval for the successful candidate if from outside of the EU/EEA	E
• A PhD project research proposal that is related to the research area	E
• The scholarship must commence before 1 May 2021	E

**Closing date for applications:** *midnight UTC on 31 March 2021*

**For further information contact:** *Professor Sian Moore* **E-mail:** *s.moore@gre.ac.uk*

**Making an application:**

Please read this information before making an application. Information on the application process is available at: <https://www.gre.ac.uk/research/study/apply/application-process>. Applications need to be made online via this link. **No other form of application will be considered.**

All applications **must include** the following information. **Applications not containing these documents will not be considered.**

- **Scholarship Reference Number (Ref)**– included in the personal statement section together with your personal statement as to why you are applying
- **a research proposal related to the subject topic \***
- **a CV including 2 referees \***
- **academic qualification certificates/transcripts and IELTS/English Language certificate if you are an international applicant or if English is not your first language or you are from a country where English is not the majority spoken language as defined by the UK Border Agency \***

*\*upload to the qualification section of the application form. Attachments must be a PDF format.*

Before submitting your application, you are encouraged to liaise with the Lead Supervisor on the details above.