

Post-doc Position at ERIM / Erasmus Virtual Knowledge Studio

Introduction

"Imaging Economic Brains" is a two-year postdoctoral research project. It is linked to the research programme of the Erasmus Virtual Knowledge Studio, and it is to be carried out within ERIM. This project aims to analyze the emergence of a new technology-driven social science field: neuro-economics. This is a new field in economics and management science. It aims to mobilize advanced brain imaging techniques from neuroscience to analyze the biological basis of economic decision making. The field sits at the interface between economics, management science, psychology, and neuroscience. The emergence and dynamics of neuro-economics is viewed as a special case of technological change in the development of research cultures. Historians of science have made clear that technology and research instrumentation are main factors in the development of scientific research. By integrating new measurement and observational instruments in their research practice, scientists have redefined their objects of research and consequently also the key questions in their field. Imaging technologies have traditionally played an important role in this dynamics (as illustrated by e.g., the invention of the microscope). The new brain imaging technologies (in particular fMRI and its related brain scanning techniques) have already had a strong influence on medical science, neuroscience, and the cognitive sciences. But how will they influence the social and behavioral sciences?

To address these questions, we are looking for a

POST-DOC RESEARCHER
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m/f

Job description

The project tasks are:

- Analyze the emergence of the field of neuro-economics on the basis of the scientific literature
- Perform quantitative analyses (eg. bibliometric and social network) of the development of the field
- Identify and analyze the role of imaging technologies in the research agendas and methodologies of neuro-economics
- Analyze the debate in neuro-economics about the identity and agenda of the field
- Conduct interviews with the leaders in the field
- Hold site visits to the main research centers in neuro-economics
- Publish project outcomes in international academic refereed journals
- Develop a new research agenda about the development of neuro-economics and the role of technology in the creation of new scientific fields on the basis of the project results.

The project team will consist of the postdoc, prof. dr. Ale Smidts and prof. dr. Paul Wouters (project leader). The project will be advised by dr. Anne Beaulieu (KNAW) and prof. dr. Peter van den Besselaar (EUR)..

The project will be conducted in the context of the research programme of the Erasmus Studio (cf. <http://www.eur.nl/erasmusstudio>). The postdoc is supposed to participate in events and activities organized by the Erasmus Studio. Starting date: 1 September 2008

Requirements

We seek a researcher who received his/her PhD in science and technology studies, and/or information science. A strong international research record is demanded as well as proficiency in the English language.

Our offer

The conditions of employment correspond with the collective labour agreement for Dutch Universities (CAO NU). We offer a fulltime contract for the duration of two years. Salary is subject to training and experience and may vary from a minimum of € 2.330,- gross per month (scale 10 CAO NU) and up to a maximum of € 4.284,- gross per month (scale 11), based on a fulltime contract of 38 hours per week. The Post-doc will be housed at the premises of RSM at the Woudestein campus of the Erasmus University Rotterdam

Information and application

For more information on the project: http://www.eur.nl/erasmusstudio/projects/current_projects/.

For more information on the job, contact Prof.dr. Paul Wouters, email:

paul.wouters@vks.knaw.nl.

Your application can be sent to the Erasmus Studio Secretariat, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Campus Woudestein, Room H06-26, Postbus 1738, 3000 DR Rotterdam. Deadline for application: 15 May 2008

Erasmus University Rotterdam (<http://www.eur.nl>)

Erasmus University Rotterdam offers a professional environment in which your growth and development are encouraged by means of an active career and mobility policy. We further offer a flexible pension scheme, a contribution to medical insurance and advantageous group insurances. Employees are welcome to use our facilities, such as the sports centre and the library.

Erasmus Research Institute of Management (<http://www.erim.eur.nl/portal/page/portal/ERIM>)

RSM Erasmus University is the international business school of the Erasmus University Rotterdam. ERIM, founded in 1999, is a joint initiative of the Rotterdam School of Management (RSM) and the Erasmus School of Economics (ESE). Its objective is to carry out first rate research in management, that enables organizations to assess and improve their business processes and leverage profitability, and to offer an advanced Doctoral programme in Management for the education of new, excellent scholars in the field.

Erasmus Virtual Knowledge Studio (<http://www.eur.nl/erasmusstudio>).

The Erasmus University aims to promote e-research as well as to carry out research projects into new scholarly and scientific practices and novel sorts of knowledge acquisition and encoding. The EUR and the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences ([KNAW](http://www.knaw.nl)) have funded a joint institute research institute in this domain: Erasmus Virtual Knowledge Studio, or in short: the Erasmus Studio.