



New Third Sector PhD Scholarship in Performance Management

Cranfield School of Management and The Cranfield Trust are working together to support a major research programme on third sector performance measurement. Cranfield is offering funding for a student to study for a full-time PhD under the title 'Performance Management in the Third Sector', starting in September 2010.

The course of study will review and map existing practice, develop understanding of the processes and challenges of non-profit performance measurement, and develop tools and techniques for non-profits to embed performance management activities within their organisations. The project is an exciting opportunity not only to increase academic knowledge but also to make a significant contribution to practice in this important area.

The PhD will be supervised by Cranfield's Centre for Business Performance, led by Professor Mike Bourne. The Centre for Business Performance specialises in the design, implementation, use and ongoing maintenance of performance measurement and management systems. Professor Bourne said of the Third Sector PhD opportunity:

"Performance Management is as critical in the third sector as it is in the commercial world. Performance measurement and impact reporting is of growing importance to non-profits and we are delighted to be working with The Cranfield Trust to offer the opportunity for a PhD student to undertake in depth research in this area."

This investment in voluntary sector management supports Cranfield School of Management's and The Cranfield Trust's existing commitments to scholarship places on Cranfield's prestigious MBA programmes. For the seventh year, new students have won scholarships on the Executive (part time) and Modular MBA programmes.

Amanda Tincknell, Chief Executive of The Cranfield Trust, said:

"Our work with 200 voluntary organisations a year demonstrates the importance of managers developing the skills they need to meet the challenges of service delivery, particularly in this difficult economic climate. Demonstrating the effectiveness of your organisation is vital as competition in the sector, and between voluntary sector and private sector service providers continues to grow. Having had outstanding scholarship students on the Cranfield MBA programme over the past 7 years we are now looking for an exceptional voluntary sector manager to take up the opportunity provided by Cranfield School of Management to gain a PhD and make a real contribution to voluntary sector thinking in the impact field."

The successful candidate will be registered as a full-time PhD student within Cranfield School of Management for 4 years from 27 September 2010. Full-time fees will be paid by Cranfield in addition to a bursary of £13,500 per year to cover living expenses.

Candidates should have a strong management background in the voluntary sector, ideally at a senior level, which includes experience of reporting to funders and other stakeholders. They are also expected to be able to demonstrate a strong interest in performance.

In the first instance, please submit a CV together with, on a separate sheet, a description of how you meet the requirements for the project, including: your background and previous experience of research; how these relate to the advertised topic; what background reading you have done around the topic; why you want to do a PhD in this area, and any further information that supports your application to carry out this particular project. These should be emailed to Wendy Habgood, PhD Programme Manager, e: wendy.habgood@cranfield.ac.uk by 28 May 2010.

Candidates will then be invited to submit a formal application form, which may be downloaded from the Cranfield School of Management website and shortlisted applicants will be invited to an assessment day at Cranfield. The deadline for final applications is 18 June 2010.

For an informal discussion about the project contact Professor Mike Bourne on +44 (0)1234 754514.

Full details of the PhD programme and a downloadable application form may be found on the website at <http://www.som.cranfield.ac.uk/som/doctorates/>

The Cranfield Trust

The Cranfield Trust is a leading provider of pro bono management consultancy to voluntary organisations addressing issues of poverty, disability and social exclusion. The Trust works with a register of volunteers from the commercial sector, many of whom are Cranfield alumni. Its website is at www.cranfieldtrust.org