

CAMBRIDGE SOCIAL SCIENCE PARTNERSHIP – INTERNSHIP PROJECT

General Information

Title: Application to UK BioBank to explore links between dietary, health and wellbeing outcomes

Non-Academic partner: Unilever

Role/Sector: Fast Moving Consumer Goods

Location: Bedford or Cambridge

Duration: 3 months

Start date: Preferably Autumn 2017 but negotiable

Full or Part time: Preferably full time but with some flexibility

Who are you going to work with

On any day, 2.5 billion people across the world use Unilever products to look good, feel good and get more out of life. The brands include Persil, Dove, Magnum, Marmite, PG Tips - and you can find Unilever products in the kitchens, fridges, freezers and bathrooms in most UK homes.

We have six global research and development facilities, including Colworth Science Park (Bedford) in the UK which is the home of Refreshment R&D (tea and ice-cream). Scientists, technologists, legal professionals and support staff work at Colworth on a diverse range of activities.

Within R&D we define and design technology to create innovative products and services. We work with academic groups and other third-parties to stay connected with the very best and most up-to-date scientific thinking. R&D innovations play a key role in driving positive change and sustainable growth as described in Unilever's Sustainable Living Plan (<https://www.unilever.com/sustainable-living/>)

How do you expect to spend your day

Unilever R&D would like to recruit a Cambridge University student to utilise the UK BioBank database to address outstanding research questions related to dietary patterns (e.g. tea consumption), health and well-being.

The UKBioBank is an open access database containing data from thousands of participants relating to health behaviour and outcomes. The purpose of this database is to "build a major resource that can support a diverse range of research intended to improve the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of illness and the promotion of health throughout society".

The intern will take the lead in coordinating an application to gain access to the BioBank. The internship will last for approximately three months - the time it takes to complete the application process to gain access to the database. The main phases include registering, completing a preliminary application and then sending a formal application. The internship can be extended - depending on the candidate's interests and abilities - to include a further stage of assessing the quality of the data and completing data analysis (once access has been granted).

The intern will primarily conduct desk research using academic databases and work with our scientists to formulate research questions. During the process, the intern will keep key stakeholders informed of progress.

The ideal intern's personality and qualifications

We are looking for an organized and curious student to bring a fresh perspective on how the consumption of products and ingredients relevant to our Refreshment business are linked to health and well-being. We are looking for students with an academic background and strong interest in nutrition, emotion and/or physiology. A fast learner, the intern will be able to rapidly grasp the fundamentals of the specific research field and working with experts in behavioural science and epidemiology, identify business relevant research questions. The intern will be encouraged to use their initiative to suggest new research avenues that can be applied to the UK BioBank. The internship would be most suited to a student that is flexible and open to the learning process of completing grant applications.

Essential skills:

- An interest in gaining experience in an industry environment is essential
- Ability to search and assimilate information from academic literature
- Develop testable research questions
- Meet deadlines and keep track of input from multiple sources
- Ability to communicate research aims clearly
- Engage stakeholders of different levels within the business
- Ability to work with other team members to agree on the best way forward
- Ability to motivate oneself and work with own initiative
- Ability to conduct statistical analyses (correlation, ANOVA)
- Some experience of large datasets
- Working knowledge of software to analyse data, e.g. SPSS, SAS or R

Desirable skills:

- A passion and existing knowledge in either physiology and/or nutrition and dietary patterns is very desirable
- Skills in epidemiology and plenty of experience with complex datasets is desirable

What are the benefits of Interning at this project

The part-time internship opportunity is suitable for PhD candidates looking to develop research experience in an applied environment where research can lead to innovation. You will work with multi-disciplinary researchers across physiology, physical science and psychology to form key research questions.

Students can enjoy working flexibly according to project timelines, and have the option to be based in the Science Park in Bedford 1-2 days a week or work from Cambridge University over the duration of your internship.

Apply for this role

If you are interested in applying for this opportunity, please email the completed [application form](#) and a CV to esrcdte@admin.cam.ac.uk.

Please note that all applications must be approved by the applicant's PhD supervisor. The application deadline is **September 20 2017**. Results will be announced early October 2017.