SEEKING A RESEARCH ASSISTANT

The Advancing Relational Thinking Lab is seeking an enthusiastic Research Assistant to work on a funded research project investigating leading the contemporary Montessori school in Australia. The successful candidate will work closely with A/Prof Scott Eacott on the project.

The Montessori Education Australia Leadership (MEAL) Project: Phase 1

This project is undertaking a *Relational* Inquiry into the Provision of Schooling (RIPS) analysis of Montessori schools in Australia. It represents the next phase of an ongoing partnership between A/Prof Eacott and Montessori Australia (MA) and is replicating work undertaken with Steiner Education Australia (SEA).

Phase 1 involves an analysis of publicly available data on MA schools, and online interviews (conducted using MSTeams) with principals (or equivalent) and key MA officials throughout Australia. Participant recruitment is intended to begin in August, with data generation taking place between August and October.

The deliverable from the project is a Discussion Paper for the partner (due in November 2021). The intent of the Discussion Paper is to stimulate national dialogue and debate on the present and future of Montessori schools.

The Research Assistant Role

Working closely with A/Prof Eacott, this Research Assistant role will work with existing data generated by the larger project team and focus on four key tasks:

i)   the recruitment of participants and scheduling of research interviews;
ii)   data cleaning of interview transcripts from MSTeams;
iii)   initial analysis of transcripts (working with the *relational* approach); and
iv)   the formatting and production of the Discussion Paper for the sponsor.

The ideal candidate:

Currently, there is funding for approximately 165 hours at HEW Level 5 Step 1. Due to the time sensitive nature of the project, A/Prof Eacott will start looking at applications from 13 July 2021 until the position is filled. The ideal candidate will have:

- A bachelor's degree, or higher, in education, the social sciences, or other related fields;
- Previous experience with empirical social science research, including for example, data cleaning, data analysis, and report writing;
- Preference would be given to candidates with a working knowledge of (or willingness to work with) Eacott's *relational* approach; and
- Excellent time management and data management skills.

If you have any queries about the positions, please contact A/Prof Scott Eacott. To apply, send your short CV (no more than 2 pages) and a cover letter (no more than 1 page) to s.eacott@unsw.edu.au

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