



27/05/2020

Prot. 277681..... Tit.V.II Cl.1..

Rep. Decreti 1355.....

THE RECTOR

ACCORDING TO the Statutes of the University of Catania;

ACCORDING TO Italian Law 240, December 30, 2010, under the provisions of the university organization, including the academic staff, the recruitment and the delegation of powers ensuring the provision and the implementation of incentives, quality and efficiency of the university system, as per Art. 18, Par. 5, F);

ACCORDING TO Italian Law 35, April 4, 2012, as to the "Conversion into law" amended and ruled by Decree 5, February 9, 2012, determining "Urgent regulatory provisions as part of a primary effort to streamline and develop the process" as per Art. 49, Par. 1, H), amending Art. 18, Par. 5, F) of the above Law 240/2010;

ACCORDING TO University regulations for the award of research fellowships" as per Rector's Decree 5, January 4, 2016, with further amendments and adjustments approved by the Rector's Order 2699, August 8, 2016;

ACCORDING TO Presidential Decree 4525, November 8, 2017, Mr Lucio Mannino, appointed to the role of divisional director for ARI and AFO, exercise ultimate authority for the adoption of administrative measures involving external administration;

HAVING REGARD to Presidential Decrees n. 2961 of October 8, 2019 and n. 3412 of November 5, 2019 conferring prof. Salvatore Baglio, Rector's Delegate for Research, the power to sign the relevant acts and administrative measures;

IN CONSIDERATION OF the communication, dating June 7, 2019, Ref. No. 177595, with which the Sole Director of ECLAT s.r.l., communicated the will to grant a liberal contribution for a total amount of € 104,000.00 finalized to the activation of n. 4 annual research grants, in the field of the activities conducted by the CoHEAR;

HAVING REGARD to the extract of the deliberation of the Clinical and Experimental Medicine Department Council (MEDCLIN), p. 5, June 19, 2019, Ref. No. 190661 (transmitted Ref. No.190669, June 21, 2019), in which a favourable opinion on the granting of the above-mentioned contribution was given;

HAVING REGARD to the communication of July 10, 2019, Ref. No. 219577, which the Dean has announced the acceptance by the University of the above-mentioned liberal contribution;

IN CONSIDERATION OF the application – Ref. No. 57894 12 February 2020, with which Prof. Gaetano Bertino has asked to submit to the next Council of Department the proposal of activation of n. 4 annual research grants in the framework of activities conducted by the CoEHAR;

IN CONSIDERATION OF the extract of deliberation of the Council of the Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine (MEDCLIN), prot. N. 76467 (27.02.2020), with which the aforementioned request of Prof. Gaetano Bertino was approved;

IN CONSIDERATION OF the application submitted by **Prof. Gaetano Bertino** requesting that four fellowship, of which no. 2 reserved for graduates from low and middle income economies countries, according to the official list 2020 of the World Bank Group, based on qualification requirements, over a period of **12 months** each and for a gross amount of **€ 26,000.00** each, to be allocated for a research activity performing "**Living Systematic Reviews: application of an innovative method of systematic review to research on the reduction of damage from smoking, with particular reference to cardiovascular, respiratory and weight management effects**", on a topic subject related to "*Living Systematic Reviews: application of an innovative method of systematic review to research on the reduction of damage from smoking, with particular reference to cardiovascular, respiratory and weight management effects*", financed by the aforementioned free contribution;

ENSURED that all costs shall be covered by means of a provisional commitment Ref. No. **6471/1**, cod. 6C821201020, cap.18020490.

DECREES

1. A selection procedure is open for the award of 4 Research Fellowships of which no. 2 reserved for graduates from low and middle income economies countries, according to the official list 2020 of the World Bank Group, in accordance with Art. 18, Par. 5 of Italian Law 240/2010, in line with University Rules and Regulations for the awarding of research fellowships.
2. The research project, the research topic subject and the structure whereby the fellowship and related research activities will be carried out are specified in the announcement.
3. The total amount for research fellowships including insurance coverage, shall be allocated on the basis of a financial commitment specified in the introduction.

Place and date 27/05/2020

THE RECTOR
(Prof. Francesco Priolo)



PUBLIC SELECTION PROCEDURE FOR 4 RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine (MEDCLIN)

ART. 1

A public selection procedure is open for the award of:

n. 4 Research Fellowships based on qualifications requirements and interview at the University of Catania, for the following topic subject: *“Living Systematic Reviews: an innovative method for systematic reviews applied to the research on tobacco harm reduction, with particular reference to cardiovascular effects, respiratory effects and weight management”* of which **2 fellowships are reserved** for graduates from low and middle income economies countries, according to the official list 2020 of the World Bank Group;

Research Programme:

“Living Systematic Reviews: an innovative method for systematic reviews applied to the research on tobacco harm reduction, with particular reference to cardiovascular effects, respiratory effects and weight management”;

Research Activity:

“One of the challenges of the research in the field of harm reduction from smoking is that many studies are flawed. Furthermore, another challenge is the accelerating rate of publication in the field so that any systematic review becomes rapidly obsolete. This project will produce systematic reviews that critically assess the quality of studies and produce living reviews and reports in plain language on high quality studies. The research goal is to provide information on health effects resulting from the substitution of alternative low-risk products for conventional cigarettes in the cardiovascular and respiratory systems and on weight management. The Living Systematic Review is a method of regular surveillance of the literature with regular updates of the reviews. The Living Systematic Reviews will provide policy makers, healthcare workers and consumers with reliable and up-to-date data from quality research studies to inform their decisions on policies and practices for reducing harm from smoking”;

Duration: 12 months (twelve) each;

Amount: €26,000.00 (twenty-six thousand/00 euro) gross, each, including charges to the Administration;

Location: Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine - CoEHAR Research Center;

Scientific Director: Prof. Gaetano Bertino.

ART. 2

The selection procedure is open to candidates who meet the following criteria and requirements before and within the application deadline:

Master's degree in: Medicine and Surgery; Biology; Medical, Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Biotechnologies; Pharmacy and Industrial Pharmacy; Dentistry and Dental Prosthesis; Psychology; Cognitive Sciences; Archival and Librarian Sciences; Information and Publishing Systems; Theories and Methodologies of E-Learning and Media Education; Communication theories; Statistical Sciences; Sociology and Social Research; Economics Sciences; Computer Science; or equivalent title.

The following skills and experience shall be evaluated in relation to the profile needed and the research programme requirements:

1. Experience in bibliographic research on Pubmed and/or other biomedical databases;
2. Research and hands-on experience in the field of smoking and harm reduction from smoking;
3. PhD and / or relevant medical specializations;
4. Further evaluable qualifications (relevant specialization courses, refresher courses, workshops ...)

5. Scientific publications in international journals;
6. Good knowledge of English language.

ART. 3

Applications are open to everyone with no bias in regard to nationality.

All applications shall be addressed, undersigned and submitted by all candidates on unstamped paper, as per Annex. 1) and must be addressed to Magnifico Rettore c/o Dipartimento di Medicina Clinica e Sperimentale (MEDCLIN) - Catania.

The application and the enclosed documentation must be sent exclusively by registered mail with return receipt or by express courier with proof of delivery within thirty days from the publication date of Announcement, available on Albo on-line section of the University website.

Applicants are strictly required to send the application and its enclosures by one of the following procedures:

- **registered mail with return receipt** - Compliance with the deadline is evidenced by the postmark date of the accepting post office; however, confirmed the compliance with the deadline, only the applications that will reach the recipient university office within 15 days from the deadline date will be accepted.
- **express courier with proof of delivery**. Compliance with the deadline is evidenced by the date the courier has taken in charge the shipment; however, confirmed the compliance with the deadline, only the applications that will reach the recipient university office within 15 days from the deadline date will be accepted.

In the envelope, duly closed, candidates shall write their personal details and the following statement must be reported: “**Bando N° .1355..... 2020 - Borsa di Ricerca**”.

Applications that are hand-delivered or shipped after the deadline indicated above or that, due to the failure to indicate all the information requested in the previous point, have been dispersed, or that arrive at the recipient university office after 15 days from the deadline, will not be taken into consideration. In the event of untraceable applications being lost in the process, the Administration will not be held responsible for them.

Should the Administration fail to communicate with applicants due to wrong address provided by them or any change of address belatedly notified, the Administration will not be held responsible for it. The same applies to postal or telegraphic errors because of third parties, chance or any unforeseeable circumstances.

When applying, candidates are expected to make a formal statement under their own responsibility:

- personal details, date and place of birth, fiscal code, residence, postal address and postcode, telephone number and e-mail address;
- citizenship;
- possession of qualification(s) required for admission, specifying the award date, the degree mark or the GPA, name of home University, or any equivalent institution and/or qualification gained overseas. (Any qualifications gained overseas but not formally converted into the equivalent grading system need to be certified by a Declaration of Value by Italian authorities. Candidates will be expected to justify their reason for applying before being assessed and thereby enclose the grading system used in their home countries to make their own application relevant. In this particular case, the aforementioned Declaration of Value shall be given by the commission for the sole purpose of selection process);
- Additional skills and experience (such as diplomas or post-graduate certificates of attendance, gained in Italy or abroad, any involvement in national/European projects or research activities in public or private institutions carried out by grants, fellowships or bilateral agreements);
- not to be or become subject to any legal prohibitions provided by Art. 4 of this announcement.

Candidates are required to also enclose the following documents to support their application:

- a) curriculum vitae;

- b) a written statement according to Italian DPR 445, December 28, 2000 certifying that holders of relevant qualifications comply with Annex B, alongside any other requirements;
- c) original copies of publications (if required), i.e. made by a photostat with an enclosed statement certifying as being in conformity with the original document (as Annex C) according to Italian D.P.R. 445, December 28, 2000;
- d) overseas qualifications need to be ascertained and certified as being legally acceptable in Italy. Should this recognition not be available yet, the equivalencies shall be determined by the Selection Committee for the sole purpose of candidates' admission to selection;
- e) a front and back copy of a valid ID document;
- f) a list of documents and materials submitted therein shall be made on a separate sheet with date and signature.

Candidates shall be granted provisional admission to selection as the Administration reserves the right to carry out sample checks to ascertain the full validity of all the information and certifications presented herein.

ART. 4

Research fellowships cannot be awarded in addition to any other ongoing bursaries, unless they are awarded by national or international bodies for a research activity to be carried out overseas.

Research fellowships cannot be awarded in addition to any other ongoing salaries or paid activities.

Under no circumstances can the assignee receive by University funding any other financial contribution in addition to the amount of the fellowship allocated and/or any external subsidies provided for this announcement.

The fellowship holder is required to declare, under his/her own responsibility, the non-existence of any other financial involvement or commitment and pledge to promptly report any different circumstance or change of circumstances.

ART. 5

The deadline for submissions must be met as required and the members of the Examination Board shall be chosen by the Director of the Department interested, upon approval of the Council of that Department. The Examination Board is comprised of three academics, one of whom possibly chosen by the funder.

The Examination Board schedule the calendar of its work and specifically, the date and venue for the interview, if required by the call.

The selection procedure is based on the assessment of all qualifications submitted by each candidate including their curricula, using a predefined scoring system, and by a subsequent interview aimed at ascertaining the candidate's aptitude for carrying out the research topic to which the fellowship is awarded.

The assessment criteria are preliminarily set by the Examination Board, using 100 as a grading system, including 40 points for the evaluation of qualifications and curriculum and 60 points for the interview.

Once the evaluation of qualifications and curriculum has been completed, the outcome of which is published on the online "Albo" section of the Department, the Examination Board proceeds to conduct the interview of the admitted candidates through telematic systems. The date and the telematic system for the interview are made public by posting the relevant notice the online "Albo" section of the Department, for a period of at least 10 working days prior to the established date. The notice has the value of notifying the interested parties, therefore no individual communication will be given by the Administration. Candidates must show a valid identification document at the beginning of the interview.

The interview will be carried out through telematic systems, after the identification of the candidate by the President of the Commission who must also certify the correct conduct of the interview. Failure to connect through telematic systems at the established time or late connection will be considered as a waiver of participation in the selection.

Assessment results shall be released online on the "Albo" section with respective scoring in descending order based to an overall score earned by each candidate. Should there be an equal merit among candidates, the one with a PhD prevails, i.e. in the medical context the area of specialty counts, unless these has been indicated as a specific requirement in the call; in case of ongoing state of parity, the younger candidate shall prevail.

At the end of the selection process, the Examination Board will provide the relevant office with a documentation package including the minutes taken and an explanatory report on those applicants who were instead rejected in the process.

The Examination Board is expected to finish the job within 30 days from the formal designation by the Administration. The merit ranking list is released by a Rector's Decree and is published on the website section concerned, the University "Albo". This form of information is deemed an official notification, for all purposes, so that no further communication to candidates will be needed.

ART. 6

Winning fellows shall be duly as well as formally informed by the Administration. Forfeiture of the entitlement to the fellowship for dropouts and for those who do not accept to carry out the research activity within the prescribed time of 10 working days from formal notice. In case of express waiver or nonacceptance, the Administration shall be advised by the Scientific Director in charge as to whom, in the merit list, the fellowship is supposed to be given.

The fellowship holder is required to carry out the research activity regularly and uninterruptedly, save a temporary suspension supported by proof of reason for the Scientific Director to take into account and possibly accept, failing that, fellowship holders shall be held responsible for serious or repeated failures.

Fellowship holders who do not show adequate aptitude for research are subject to be dismissed by the Rector on well-founded reasons, after hearing the Scientific Director and the incumbent fellow.

Fellowship holders have the duty to give notice in case of non-fulfilment of required formalities and conditions.

ART. 7

On behalf of fellowship holders, according to Art. 18, Par. 5, F) of Italian Law 240/2010, the University will cover the costs of civil liability insurance deriving from bodily injury or property damage caused by fellowship holders to a third party and for any other injury deriving from research activities that were performed across University facilities where incumbent fellows are formally authorised to work. The aforementioned insurance coverage shall be provided by competent body and authority.

ART. 8

The start date and the research methods are established by the Scientific Director, in agreement with the Facility Manager. The Scientific Director is also required by law to send due notice to relevant offices and authorities within 15 days from research grant being awarded.

Fellowship holders have both the right to access the relevant university facility and the duty to pay close attention to safety standards and procedures.

The amount of the research grant is paid in equal monthly installments.

Either at the end of the fellowship or in the course of it, fellows may be invited to present accurate reports on the research activity performed.

The University is the exclusive owner of research results as required by its agreements, unless a different ownership is specified in the contract.

The contract confers the right to make use of the fellowship, but it does not establish an employment relationship, nor does it give rise to any social security treatments.

ART. 9

Candidates are expected to collect, at their own expense, the qualifications and the documentation presented herein within three months after the publication of the merit list. From that point on, the University cannot be held in any way responsible for the safe custody of their documents.

ART. 10

According to Art. 11 of Legislative Decree 196/2003 ("Legislative code regarding data protection"), personal data are processed for the sole purpose of this announcement. Providing personal data is mandatory for the assessment of formal requirements, at risk of not being eligible for selection. Interested parties may, at any time, exercise the rights provided by Art. 7 of the above Legislative Decree, including the right to access

personal data as well as the right to have incorrect, incomplete or collected data rectified, updated, completed or deleted in accordance to the law.

ART. 11

Any further issue not covered by this announcement is remitted to the current legislation ruling the terms and conditions for research grant awards, as specified in the introduction.

According to the Law 241/1990, along with any further amends, modifications or additions, the Officer in charge of the selection procedure for this announcement is Mrs. Rosalba Bartilotti Research Office - Research Grants, Via Fragalà n. 10, Catania, tel. 095-4787433 e-mail r.bartilotti@unict.it, supported by the Chief of the Administrative Services and Personnel Mrs Rosaria Fichera at the Dipartimento di Medicina Clinica e Sperimentale (MEDCLIN) - Via S. Sofia n. 89 — 95123 – Catania - Telephone: 095-4781451, rfichera@unict.it, medclin.amm@unict.it.

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