Call for a 4-year doctoral research at the Faculty of Letters, Translation and Communication - Université libre de Bruxelles

Faculty of Letters, Translation and Communication of Université libre de Bruxelles is looking for a fully funded four-year doctoral student in the field of Translation and Interpretation.

Located at the heart of Europe in the city of Brussels, ULB is a comprehensive university with 12 faculties, schools or institutes, covering all major research fields. Its Faculty of Letters, Translation and Communication is composed of three departments (Languages and Humanities, School of Translation and Interpretation ISTI - Cooremans, and Information and Communication Sciences) and five research centers.

General conditions

The successful candidate will be awarded a four-year PhD grant and be primarily based in the TRADITAL research center, located within the freshly built premises, complete with interpretation booths, office space and eye-tracking equipment, and will benefit from a stimulating scientific environment (international exposure through scientific events, research seminars, networking activities at national and international level, specific training sessions, etc.). They will be writing a PhD dissertation on the topic of their choice, under the supervision of one or two academic members of the Faculty (one of which will belong to The School of Translation and Interpretation ISTI-Cooremans).

The successful candidate will be granted a fully funded doctoral untaxed fellowship contract that is equivalent to an employment contract. Depending on the nationality of the beneficiary, this fellowship contract is subject to the general¹ or to the partial² provisions of the Belgian Social Security System covering health insurance, maternity leave, sick pay in case of hospitalization, disability insurance, national pension system, national unemployment system, insurance against workplace accidents, family benefits and provisions towards occupational diseases. For all recipients of a doctoral fellowship, whether it is subject to the general or partial social security system, the scholarship holder may receive family allowances for the children in their household.

The monthly net fellowship is expected to be around 2100 € the first two years, and 2170 € the third and the fourth years. The candidate will also benefit from an additional budget for their research costs (2500 €/per two years).

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1. Countries of the EEA and Switzerland or countries linked with Belgium by a bilateral social security agreement (Algeria, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, South Korea, Croatia, United-States, India, Israel, Japan, Kosovo, Macedonia, Morocco, Philippines, Republic of Montenegro, San Marino, Servia, Tunisia, Turkey and Uruguay).
2. One of the countries that is not listed above or which is not part of the EEA.
How to apply?

Eligibility criteria:

▸ This program is opened to applicants of any age and any nationality.

▸ We encourage applications from candidates who are neuro-diverse, disabled or come from ethnic groups that are under-represented in academia.

▸ Applicants must have obtained a Master degree or equivalent for maximum 2 years at the latest on the application deadline. This latter maximum period of time is extended for one additional year per childbirth and/or adoption.

Application:

▸ Applications should be written in English or in French, and submitted as a single PDF file, by email to recherche.ltc@ulb.be by August 5th, 2022 at 17:00 Brussels time (UTC + 2)

▸ The application file should contain the following parts:

1. A scientific proposal, in which you will outline the research you plan to conduct in the four years of your PhD. Please make sure that the proposal is situated against a clearly delineated state of the art, that it comports easily identifiable research questions and that it is feasible as a four-year doctoral project. The only constraint on the contents of this project is that it should be situated in the field of Interpretation or Translation; potential inter-disciplinary connections are fully admissible.

The proposal should be structured as follows:
Title (max. 200 characters, including spaces).
1) Goals of the research
2) State of the art
3) Research project
4) Work plan

This scientific proposal will count a maximum of 4 pages (format: Arial 12, single space), accompanied by a reference bibliography (max. 1 page besides the 4 pages dedicated to the project) listed by order of appearance within the text. Graphs and charts may be also added (max. 1 pages in addition to the 4 pages dedicated to the project).

2. A CV, including a list of publications (published or accepted)

3. Supporting documents:
1) Copy of the ID or Passport.
2) Certificate of achievement or Copy of the diploma.
3) Grade transcripts of the Master degree(s) or equivalent.
4) Childbirth and/or adoption certificate (if relevant).
4. Letter of recommendation: In addition, we request a letter of recommendation from a senior academic who is familiar with your academic work and who can judge your potential as a PhD student. Please ask the referee to send their letter of recommendation directly to recherche.ltc@ulb.be. This letter is an essential part of your application, and it is your responsibility to ensure that the referee write to us before August 15th, 2022.

Application deadline: Deadline for receipt of the completed application is August 5th, 2022 at 17:00 Brussels time (UTC + 2).

Selection procedure:

1. After the deadline, the Faculty’s Research Administration will examine the eligibility of each application. Only non-eligible candidates or those who submitted an incomplete application will be notified at the end of this stage.

2. The remaining applications will be reviewed by the Research committee of the Faculty that will establish a ranking. The Research committee will also designate the promoter(s) of the successful candidate before the starting date of their grant.

Admission:

All candidates will be notified of the outcome of their application by the end of August 2022. The successful candidate will then have 5 working days to accept the fellowship. They will start their PhD grant on 1st of October 2022.

Please note that by accepting the grant, the successful applicant will commit to apply to the Research Fellow (ASP – Aspirant) fellowship of the Fund for Scientific Research – FNRS (F.R.S. – FNRS) call in February 2022. Should this application be successful, they would subsequently continue their PhD under the FNRS umbrella with unchanged financial and institutional conditions.