



POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

The African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) is a not-for-profit Pan-African institution dedicated to enabling the advancement of economic policy research and training in Africa. AERC is seeking to recruit a suitable individual to fill the following position:

DIRECTOR OF AERC'S TRAINING PROGRAMMES

The position provides the overall intellectual leadership and guidance for the Training Programme and ensures that the training programmes of the Consortium are of the highest quality and relevance to the economic and policy needs of Africa. The Director is a member of the Senior Management Team and supports the Executive Director in promoting teamwork, collaboration, and work performance standards across the Secretariat.

Key responsibilities:

1. Provides leadership in the strategic development and continuous management of the Training Programme.
2. Monitors changes in the structure, content and financing of Training Programme activities to ensure optimal impact in meeting labor market needs for graduate African economists.
3. Effectively networks with universities and the research community to ensure continued relevance of training activities and a high profile for the Consortium.
4. Through regular reporting keeps the AERC governing bodies abreast of activities and facilitates their work.
5. Ensures that the Training Department serves the Consortium according to established internal and external performance criteria and within a value for money culture.
6. Assists the Executive Director in fund-raising generally and with specific reference to the Training Programme and collaborates with other agencies in mobilizing additional support for graduate training in Africa in AERC and in the universities.

The successful candidate will have a PhD in Economics with at least 10 years experience in economic research as well as teaching experience at university level in Africa. The position requires strong leadership skills and substantial experience and knowledge relating to university administration. The candidate should be a strategic thinker with strong communication and networking skills. A detailed job description is attached for further reference.

Qualified candidates with the requisite experience are encouraged to apply with a detailed CV, stating current position; current and expected remuneration, email, telephone contacts, and names and addresses of three referees. To be considered, the application must be received by e-mail **no later than 30 July 2010** addressed to:

The Search Committee

African Economic Research Consortium (AERC)

Bourrier International Consultants Inc.

E-mail: bici@sympatico.ca

For more information on AERC visit www.aercafrica.org

Women are particularly encouraged to apply



JOB DESCRIPTION – AERC DIRECTOR OF TRAINING

GRADE:	Board appointed
REPORTS TO:	Executive Director
SUPERVISION:	Training Programme Manager CMAAE Programme Manager JFE Administrator Grants Administrator Training Administrator Programme Assistant
DURATION:	As determined by the Board of AERC
MAIN EXTERNAL CONTACTS:	Programme Committee Senior academic administrators Resource Persons Senior academics and economics researchers Policymakers Donors
MAIN INTERNAL CONTACTS:	Executive Director Heads of Departments

BROAD FUNCTION

The Director of Training provides the overall intellectual leadership and guidance for the Training Programme and ensures that the training programmes of the Consortium are of the highest quality and relevance to the economic and policy needs of Africa. In this respect, the Director has to actively manage the capacity-building training programmes at the Masters and Doctoral levels in economics and applied and agricultural economics.

The Director supports the Executive Director in developing and implementing a fund-raising strategy for supporting the Consortium's training programmes and ensures that donor requirements, including reporting, for the training activities are met. The Director supports the Executive Director in promoting teamwork and collaboration, performance standards, and a value for money culture across the Secretariat.

PRIMARY DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES

Training Programme

- (a) Provides leadership in the strategic development of the Training Programme through active management of the Collaborative Masters and PhD Programmes in Economics and Collaborative Masters in Applied & Agricultural Economics Programme activities, ensuring that they respond to the longer term needs of Sub Saharan Africa's needs for research, teaching and economic management and that the training provided is of the highest standards.



- (b) Initiates, innovates and develops activities aimed at improving the scope and quality of training such as workshops and other programmes for trainees and capacity building for their institutions, taking into account the needs of under-represented groups and countries.
- (c) Monitors changes in the structure, content and financing of higher education in Sub Saharan Africa with particular reference to their possible impact on training in economics at the graduate and undergraduate levels, with a view to introducing new modalities to the training programmes.
- (d) As part of strategic planning, monitors the labor market for graduate African economists as part of continuously updating the training programmes to help retain graduates within the region in positions that make effective use of their professional skills and knowledge.
- (e) Oversees the organization of core training sessions and meetings, including the operation of the Joint Facility for Electives.
- (f) Ensures that reports on activities are provided to the AERC Board, donors, Programme Committee, the Academic Board and management as required.

Liaison with AERC network and training institutions

- (a) Networks with senior African and non-African researchers and academics as well as with relevant Pan-African and international institutions, to ensure continued relevance of training activities and a high profile for the Consortium.
- (b) Establishes and actively maintains close links with universities both to promote economics training within their structures and to promote research into issues bearing on economic development in Sub Saharan Africa.
- (c) Enhances collaboration among African institutions and scholars engaged in research and training in economics.
- (d) Liaises closely with parallel graduate training programmes for Nigeria and for Francophone Africa.
- (e) Keeps the AERC Programme Committee and its Subcommittee on Training fully informed of pertinent issues, provides advice and facilitates their work, including the review of submissions for institutions support and for institutional attachments for trainees.

Management and coordination

- (a) Has overall responsibility for the management of the Training Department, including financial management of activities and generally oversees day to day activities, including the supervision of a small staff team.
- (b) Ensures that the Training Department serves the Consortium according to established internal and external performance criteria and within a value for money culture.
- (c) Assists the Executive Director in fund-raising generally and with specific reference to the Training Programme and collaborates with other agencies in mobilizing additional support for graduate training in Africa in AERC and in the universities.



- (d) Liaises as necessary with the entire Secretariat to ensure the smooth functioning and high performance of AERC, particularly exploiting successful linkages between AERC's training and research activities.
- (e) Plays an active part in outreach activities and coordinates with the Communications Department as needed, including on the posting of training information and results on the AERC website.
- (f) Assists the Executive Director in ensuring that appropriate evaluations of the training programme are conducted and lead to positive changes
- (g) Exercises such managerial responsibilities, including administrative back-up and serving as Officer in Charge as may be delegated from time to time by the Executive Director.

SECONDARY DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES

Undertakes any other duties as directed by the Executive Director

JOB REQUIREMENTS

Education/qualifications	PhD in Economics and a track record in economic research as well as experience in graduate teaching of economics in Africa
Experience	At least 10 years relevant experience, including management and teaching experience at university level
Skills	Demonstrated leadership and management skills Good interpersonal skills Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines Good team player Ability and willingness to travel widely in Africa Ability to work in French would be an asset