

**Position Number:** D93677

**Job Title:** Associate or Full Professor Scholar

**Department:** School of Social Work

**FTE:** 1.0, benefits eligible

**Job Type:** Tenure Track

**Posted Date:** 11/12/11 revised

### **Position Summary**

The School of Social Work at Portland State University is recruiting a Scholar in Social Determinants of Health. We seek a Scholar with a distinguished record of research addressing the effects of social and bio-social factors on mental and physical health, community health, and/or health equity. The Scholar will enhance a faculty with nationally recognized capacities in community-engaged research and a commitment to social justice.

The position will be awarded to an accomplished, tenured scholar with a strong history of extramural research funded by agencies such as the National Institutes of Health. The Scholar will maintain an active and ongoing program of funded research and will play a leadership role among faculty colleagues in establishing a new Interdisciplinary Center of Excellence in Social Determinants of Health. The Center will serve as a focal point for the study of circumstances in which people are born, grow, learn, work, and age. The Center also will support research evaluating approaches for promoting mental and physical health, community health, and health equity.

The Scholar in Social Determinants of Health will support the development of early career and emerging faculty researchers investigating related topics. Other duties will include: teaching interdisciplinary courses in the Scholar's area of expertise; doctoral student advising; and school, university and community service. The position is a 1.0 FTE, 9-month, tenured academic appointment at the associate or full professor level.

### **Qualifications**

Applicants must have an earned Doctorate in Social Work or a doctoral/terminal degree (e.g., MD) in a related social science, health science, or medical field. Applicants must have an established program of extramurally-funded applied research in social determinants of health with experience in mentoring junior faculty researchers and doctoral students. We are interested especially in applicants who have demonstrated competencies in community-engaged research, multicultural issues, and working with diverse communities.

### **Responsibilities of the position**

- Maintain a productive program of research in Social Determinants of Health funded through major grants and contracts (e.g., R01 award from NIH);
- Work closely with faculty in other schools and colleges, especially those funded by the Health & Life Sciences Initiative, to establish an Interdisciplinary Center of Excellence in Social Determinants of Health at Portland State University;
- Involve early career faculty researchers in the faculty member's research projects and support them in planning and undertaking their own funded research;
- Serve as a consultant to the Associate Dean for Research in establishing and supporting priorities for research initiatives across the units of the School of Social Work;
- Establish and maintain collaborative relationships with community, state, and federal agencies that support and use applied research;
- Teach courses in the faculty member's area of expertise; and
- Promote opportunities for participation in research in the education of master's and doctoral students in social work and related disciplines.

## **School of Social Work**

The School of Social Work at Portland State University offers Bachelors degrees in Social Work and Child and Family Studies, the Master of Social Work (MSW) degree, and a Ph.D. in Social Work and Social Research. The School offers the only accredited graduate social work education in Oregon. The School has approximately 35 full-time and 25 part-time instructional faculty members with a graduate enrollment of over 500 students. The School hosts two major research and training units: the Regional Research Institute for Human Services (RRI) and The Center for the Improvement of Child and Family Services. Established in 1972, the aim of the Regional Research Institute (<http://www.rri.pdx.edu/>) is to improve human services and policies through applied social research and to contribute to the educational programs of the School and related disciplines at the University. The RRI houses numerous projects and initiatives, including the Research and Training Center on *Pathways 2 Positive Futures*, the Center for Interdisciplinary Mentoring Research, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Program Office for *Reclaiming Futures, Communities Helping Teens Overcome Drugs, Alcohol and Crime*. The Center for the Improvement of Child and Family Services (<http://www.ccf.pdx.edu/index.php>) spearheads training and research projects aimed at assisting public and private systems to improve services provided to children and families. A major initiative is the Child Welfare Partnership, which brings together Portland State University and the Oregon State Department of Human Services as an integrated partnership to improve the delivery of child welfare services in Oregon. The School of Social Work's annual revenue from externally-funded research is approximately \$12 million.

The School of Social Work's fully accredited Distance Learning option to the MSW program is vital to the University's goals of enhanced access and service to the statewide community and combines the use of interactive technology and on-site, face-to-face instruction. The doctoral program in Social Work and Social Research prepares students to understand critical social welfare problems, to conduct research and policy analysis related to solutions, to enhance program development and administration in human services, and to take faculty positions that provide academic leadership in the field of social work.

The School actively seeks to achieve cultural diversity. The Cultural Competence and Diversity Council is composed of faculty, students, and community practitioners and is responsible for assisting in the recruitment and support of students. The faculty Committee on Social Justice and Diversity is providing leadership for the incorporation of social justice principles and practices across all units of the School of Social Work.

## **Portland State University**

Portland State University, the urban institution of the Oregon University System, has the largest and most diverse enrollment of any university in the state with approximately 30,000 students, including more than 6,000 graduate students, representing over 90 different countries. The university offers over 120 degree-granting programs.

## **Compensation**

Rank and salary are commensurate with experience and qualifications. Compensation includes an excellent benefits package in terms of healthcare, reduced tuition, retirement and vacation.

*Portland State University is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Institution and welcomes applications from diverse candidates and candidates who support diversity.*

**Applications and Nominations:**

We invite applications from and nominations of well-qualified individuals. Applicants are requested to provide the following materials:

- cover letter
- curriculum vitae
- three selected publications representative of work
- names and contact information for four references

(Note: The successful candidate will need to complete a background check before appointment.)

Applications should be received by January 31, 2012, although new applications will be considered until finalists are identified. The review of applications will begin immediately. Please send materials to:

Thomas Keller, Ph.D., Chair  
Scholar Search Committee  
PSU School of Social Work  
P.O. Box 751  
Portland, Oregon 97207-0751

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