

## PhD position at ULiège/Maastricht University: “Optimization of study designs as used in healthcare simulation”

The Department of Public Health (Liège University) and the Department of Methodology and Statistics embedded in the Care and Public Health Research Institute (Maastricht University) have an opening for a 4-year PhD project, leading to a double PhD degree of Liège University and Maastricht University.

### Project description

Interest in simulation as a teaching and evaluation strategy in medical education is a growing research area, leading to the development of new evaluation instruments to quantify participant performances. During the development phase of these evaluation instruments, several groups of observers (experts, nurses, educational personnel) assess the performances of medical students accomplishing specific tasks in the simulation room. The key aim of the PhD will be to develop statistical methods and provide guidance to design and analyse evaluation procedures. In addition, software tools will be developed to plan efficient studies using simulation as an educational method.

This project is part of the recently awarded European INTERREG grant NLH-ChirEx – Excellence program in surgery/radiotherapy from the Medicine faculties of Nancy, Homburg/Sarre and Liège. It will be realized in close collaboration with the simulation Service of the Department of Public Health ULiège ([http://www.facmed.uliege.be/cms/c\\_2129921/fr/le-centre-smile](http://www.facmed.uliege.be/cms/c_2129921/fr/le-centre-smile)). This Service develops evaluation procedures in medical education using simulation rooms.

This is a shared position between the University of Liège and the University of Maastricht. The PhD student will collaborate with other researchers and is expected to publish in peer reviewed journals and present on international conferences.

### Work environment

The PhD student will spend part of the time at the University of Liège and part of the time in the University of Maastricht. The two universities are only a stone’s throw from each other.

In Maastricht University, your place of employment will be the Department of Methodology and Statistics of the Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences (FHML) of the Maastricht University Medical Center (<https://stat.mumc.maastrichtuniversity.nl/>). In Liège University, the candidate will be part of the Biostatistics Service of the Department of Public Health of the Faculty of Medicine ([http://www.facmed.uliege.be/cms/c\\_2868003/fr/unite-de-recherche-biostatistique-et-methodes-de-recherche](http://www.facmed.uliege.be/cms/c_2868003/fr/unite-de-recherche-biostatistique-et-methodes-de-recherche)).

## Requirements

- Graduated with a MSc in Mathematics, Statistics, Psychometrics, Biometrics or similar,
- Excellent mathematical and computer programming skills in R (experience in Bayesian software JAGS is considered a plus),
- Good writing and expressional skills in the English language,
- Knowledge of French/Dutch is a plus,
- Excellent organizational and communication skills.

## Terms of employment

The intended start date for this position is September 2018. The candidate will receive a temporary position for 4 years, starting with a 1 year appointment. The gross monthly salary is paid by University of Liège, based on a full-time working week of 38 hours.

## Information and application

Further information can be obtained from:

- About the position: Pr. AFr DONNEAU ([afdonneau@uliege.be](mailto:afdonneau@uliege.be)) and Dr. S. VANBELLE ([sophie.vanbelle@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:sophie.vanbelle@maastrichtuniversity.nl))
- About the employment conditions: Véronique Valkenborg ([Veronique.Valkenborg@uliege.be](mailto:Veronique.Valkenborg@uliege.be))

If you are interested in this position and you would like to apply, please send the following documents to Pr. Anne-Françoise DONNEAU ([afdonneau@uliege.be](mailto:afdonneau@uliege.be)) and Dr. S. VANBELLE ([sophie.vanbelle@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:sophie.vanbelle@maastrichtuniversity.nl)):

- A cover letter explaining your motivation and suitability for the position,
- A detailed curriculum vitae,
- Contact information for two references.

You can apply for this job no later than 1<sup>st</sup> August 2018.