



August 4, 2020

Applications are invited for the following postdoctoral research opportunity:

Position title: Postdoctoral Fellow: Digital Infrastructures of Health and Aging

Supervisory Team: Dr. Barbara L. Marshall, Department of Sociology, Trent University, in collaboration with Dr. Stephen Katz (Trent) and Dr. Nicole Dalmer (McMaster).

NB: Due to COVID-19, we anticipate that all work for this position will be done remotely. Skype meetings with supervisors will be regularly scheduled.

We are seeking an emerging researcher to work with us on a project linked to an international collaboration, *"Being Connected" @ Home – Making use of digital devices in later life*. This project is funded by the "More Years, Better Lives" Joint Programming Initiative, and involves teams from Canada, Spain, Sweden, and the Netherlands. The Canadian workplan, funded by CIHR, is based at Trent University under the direction of Drs. Barbara Marshall, Stephen Katz, and Nicole Dalmer. We anticipate a start date of October 2020 for this one-year position, but will consider arranging alternative dates to accommodate the selected candidate.

About the project: The overall aim of the project is to investigate fundamental changes in the contemporary experience of later life, at the intersection of digital infrastructures, place and the experience of being connected. Our workplan at Trent focuses on the theme of 'being connected' as exploring the connections between people, devices, and discourses of expertise. We focus on different living arrangements as significant sites of engagement between consumers, technology designers, social networks, physical environments, biomedical expertise and discourses of healthy and responsible citizenship. We are interested in the ways that expertise about aging and health is produced and reproduced, and how narratives of everyday experience are shaped by these engagements. Research activities will include qualitative interviews, drawing on methodological insights from digital sociology, medical anthropology, critical gerontology, and science and technology studies.

About the position: The successful candidate will be expected to participate as a full team member during their tenure, and, in addition to pursuing their own research, will undertake key tasks in fulfilling the overall team research objectives. Specifically, the successful candidate will engage in physically distanced data gathering (eg. phone or Skype/Zoom interviews) to speak with key stakeholders. These may include age-tech designers and policy makers, to understand how their work processes inform and are informed by narratives of age, aging, and digital

technology. Other duties include collecting background materials, organizing data, and conducting qualitative analysis. Other activities will include network development with relevant stakeholders, liaising with team members at scheduled meetings, writing and presenting papers on the research, producing summaries of research for public dissemination, and other tasks related to grant administration and knowledge mobilization. The successful candidate will be expected to apply for membership with the Trent Centre for Aging and Society.

This postdoctoral fellowship has an annual salary of \$47,500.

Eligibility: The successful candidate will have a completed Ph.D. before beginning the position and will normally have received their Ph.D. within 5 years of the fellowship start date. Preference will be given to Canadian citizens or permanent residents.

This position will be of particular interest to a candidate from the social sciences with a background and/or interest in aging and technology, and experience in ethnographic research and/or qualitative interviewing. Training will be provided by Drs. Marshall, Katz, and Dalmer as required in preparation of applications for ethics review, data collection, transcription and qualitative analysis.

Application: In a single email addressed to bmarshall@trentu.ca, with the subject line "Postdoctoral fellowship application" please provide the following three components as individual pdf attachments:

1. A letter (maximum 3 pages) which outlines your suitability and expertise, including planned research that aligns with the project goals
2. A CV
3. A list of three references with complete contact information, who could be called upon to write letters of recommendation

Review of applications will begin **September 10, 2020** and applications will be reviewed until the position is filled. Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted. Please address any questions to bmarshall@trentu.ca.