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## Doctoral Student Assistantship in Health Communication

### Position

The University of Lugano (Switzerland) invites applications for admission and an assistantship for doctoral study leading to a Ph.D. in health communications. The doctoral program is typically three to four years in length and full funding of tuition and stipend are guaranteed for a minimum of three years subject to satisfactory progress. The responsibilities of the assistantship will be primarily to support the research projects of the Institute of Communication and Health. In addition, limited teaching support (no more than 10% of time) may be required. Applicants should hold a bachelors degree or masters degree; all majors will be considered although most of the doctoral students in the Institute have a background in communications or allied field (e.g., psychology, sociology, etc.). Selection will be based primarily on potential for excellence in health communication research of international stature.

### The Institute of Communication and Health

Led by Professor Peter J. Schulz, the Institute of Communication and Health at the University of Lugano has developed an international reputation for its research in the areas of technology and doctor-patient communication, cultural factors in health promotion campaign design, and health literacy and empowerment. A distinctive feature of the Institute is the interdisciplinary background of its research staff which draws on strengths in the humanities, social sciences, and medicine. In support of its research and doctoral training programs, the Institute has garnered over 6.5 million Swiss francs (\$6.2 million) in grant funding from the Swiss National Science Foundation, the Swiss Federal Office of Health, the European Union, and private foundations.

The Institute is the coordinating participant in the Pro\*doc Communication and Health Doctoral School—a six-university consortium also including the Universities of Fribourg, Neuchatel, Zurich, and Luzern in Switzerland and Virginia Tech in the United States. Students in the doctoral programs of all of the participating institutions have access to special colloquia and exchange programs.

### The University

The University of Lugano is the major university in the Italian-speaking region of Switzerland. However, the University's graduate programs are taught in English as is the case with most colloquia so that fluency in Italian, while beneficial, is not required.

### Application

Application letter addressed to the Director of the Institute with curriculum vitae, transcript of all prior academic study, copies of any representative papers or publications, and three letters of recommendation should be sent to:

Prof. Peter J. Schulz  
Director, Institute of Communication and Health  
Università della Svizzera italiana  
Via Giuseppe Buffi 13  
6904 Lugano - Switzerland  
Tel +41 58 666 4724  
Fax +41 58 666 4647  
E-mail: Peter.Schulz@usi.ch

### Deadline

Applications received by Dec 1, 2010 will be given priority.

The University of Lugano seeks a diverse student body and in that spirit particularly encourages applications from female candidates.

For more detailed information, please contact Prof. Peter J. Schulz (Peter.Schulz@usi.ch).