

Academic Director

Centre for the Critical Study of Apocalyptic and Millenarian Movements

The Post

The Panacea Charitable Trust (PCT) is seeking to appoint an Academic Director to lead the *Centre for the Critical Study of Apocalyptic and Millenarian Movements* (CenSAMM). The applicant will build on work undertaken since the establishment of CenSAMM in 2015 and continue the vision of the charity to develop:

A world centre of excellence in the critical study of apocalyptic and millenarian movements and the public understanding of the legacies and future possibilities of these crucial, creative and often misunderstood forms of human culture.

We welcome applicants with a proven interest in the study of apocalyptic and millenarian movements. It is expected that the successful applicant will have a doctorate in the humanities or social sciences, and relevant research outputs, or equivalent, demonstrable, experience and expertise.

Ideally, applicants should also have experience of communication to non-specialist audiences, knowledge of digital, open access academic publishing, experience of organising symposia, workshops or comparable events that facilitate knowledge generation and transfer, and familiarity with the effective use of social media for the promotion and dissemination of scholarship.

You will be expected to work in close consultation with the PCT Trustees, the Executive Officer and senior members of staff in delivering this vision. In fulfilling this role you will report to the Executive Officer.

Main Responsibilities

In consultation with the Trustees, the Executive Officer and the other employees and stakeholders of the PCT, you will develop a five year plan that reflects the CenSAMM vision statement, builds upon work already undertaken by the Centre, and has clear, demonstrable, measurable outcomes.

The plan should include, **but not be limited to**:

1. Initiating, commissioning, editing and, where appropriate, contributing to, the *CenSAMM Dictionary of Apocalyptic and Millenarian Movements (DAMM)*. DAMM will be an online, open access publication modelled on the most recent, digital iteration of *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (ODNB)*. DAMM will be a reliable, concise, up-to-date, and engaging scholarly resource for the study of apocalyptic and millenarian movements, both past and present, and associated individuals and themes.

2. Organising and contributing to a regular series of symposia, conferences, workshops or comparable knowledge generation and transfer events that will further understanding of apocalyptic and millenarian movements, and result in world-class, open access, scholarly outputs.

In addition, the post-holder will be expected to:

- Enhance the profile and reputation of CenSAMM in a manner that is consistent with the vision statement.
- Develop existing partnerships and identify others with special interests in supporting the work of the CenSAMM.
- Collaborate effectively with the Executive Officer (and Deputy E.O.) together with staff in the Panacea Museum and the charity's archives to enhance the overall effectiveness of the charity in meeting its objectives.
- Present periodic reports to the Executive Officer for review. Present such reports at trustee and other meetings as required.

Any other such duties as may be assigned by the trustees or Executive Officer that are commensurate with the post.

Criteria

Essential

- An established reputation as a specialist in the study of apocalyptic and millenarian movements or cognate subjects.
- Knowledge and understanding of minority religious movements in general, especially those associated with the Panacea Society and the 'Visitation'.
- An ability to collaborate across disciplinary and institutional boundaries.
- Proactive in identifying and achieving goals in an educational institution or similar environment.
- Demonstrable, excellent, written and verbal communication skills in the English language.

Desirable

- An established record of research publications on apocalyptic and millenarianism, in any discipline of the humanities and social sciences, or evidence of the potential of establishing such a record.
- Experience of the successful facilitation of outreach and public engagement events.

- Experience of scholarly and digital, open access publishing.
- Experience of the effective use of social media for the promotion and dissemination of scholarship.
- Experience of managing relationships with one or more of the following stakeholders in order to secure demonstrable goals: educational institutions, learned societies, charities, think tanks, publishing and media companies.
- Experience of delivering presentations, writing reports, and managing budgets.
- Experience of assisting with the construction of funding proposals or bids and/or the assessment of such bids.
- Ability to work quickly to deadlines while prioritising effectively between long and short term objectives and / or opportunities.
- Ability to work effectively under pressure while maintaining high standards and attention to detail.
- Excellent organisational and time management skills.

General Information

Terms and Conditions of Appointment

Place of work

Whilst the role will involve some travel and working in other locations from time to time, the postholder will primarily be based at the PCT offices in Bedford. Specific working arrangements will be by agreement with the EO.

Contract and Salary

The appointment will be for a period of five years in the first instance. This will include a probationary period of 12 months.

The PCT operates a five day 35 hour working week. This position is open to applications from those seeking a fractional appointment of at least 50% and above. The starting salary will be based on a £50,000 full-time equivalent, and be subject to annual review.

Starting date

The post is available from 1 July 2018.

Annual Leave Entitlement

There is an annual holiday entitlement of 25 days plus the statutory entitlement of 8 days (33 days).

Interview Expenses

Reasonable travel and incidental expenses incurred in attending the interview will be reimbursed. (Please ensure that you keep all receipts).

Entitlement to Work in the United Kingdom

If you are shortlisted for interview you will be asked to bring to interview original documentary evidence of permission to work in the UK. Candidates invited to interview will be provided with a list of appropriate documents that can be provided as evidence. Please DO NOT provide this with your application.

Application and Recruitment Process

Application Process

Applications are by email only, with a covering letter setting out your suitability for the role and a copy of your curriculum vitae as attachments.

These should be submitted by 12pm Thursday 29th March.

All applications will be acknowledged by return of email.

Interviews

It is anticipated that presentations and interviews will take place between 23rd and 27th April. Candidates who have not heard from the charity by Friday 13th April should assume their application has been unsuccessful.

Referees

In naming referees in your application, you are requested to give only those who can immediately be approached and one of these must be your current employer or head of department, or if not employed, your most recent employer, or, if a postgraduate student then your supervisor.

Proof of Qualifications

Please note that if you are offered a contract you may be asked to provide original certificates of these educational and professional qualifications. Please DO NOT provide these with your application.

The Panacea Charitable Trust

The PCT is a UK registered charity (no. 227530). Further information about the PCT can be found on its website <http://panaceatrust.org/about/>

Prospective applicants are welcome to contact the Chair of the Trustees, Dr Justin Meggitt (jjm1000@cam.ac.uk) to discuss the post.