

University of Manchester Q-Step Summer Project 2016

Ref: #50 UoMQStep 2016 UoM Tyndall Centre Food Energy

For enquiries contact Dr Jackie Carter, jackie.carter@manchester.ac.uk or Dr Mark Brown, mark.brown@manchester.ac.uk, Q-Step Co-directors

Organisation Name: Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research

Team / Department: Mechanical, Aerospace and Civil Engineering

Address: Floor H, Pariser Building, The University of Manchester

Provisional title for project: Exploring the impact of social structures upon cooking and eating

100 word abstract of what the project would probably undertake, and any data to be used:

As part of an EPSRC funded project (<http://www.foodenergy.org.uk/>) , Tyndall researchers are exploring the role of consumers in reducing the energy demand from food systems. This Q-Step internship will work with an existing data set, collected from an online survey of 1000 people, focusing on cooking and eating practices. The project will be based on using this dataset using SPSS, devising and developing appropriate analysis to explore how cooking and eating practices are influenced by social structures and individual circumstances.

Key words (up to 12):

Survey research; cooking and eating practices; SPSS

Essential and desirable skills that the student would need to have:

Essential:

- Data analysis skills and experience with quantitative data
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office, especially Excel
- The ability to take initiative to devise a programme of work to explore and understand the dataset
- Interest in preparation of graphical presentations of data

Desirable:

- Interest in, and familiarity with, issues around food and energy consumption
- An interest in climate change mitigation

Where the work would be carried out:

The work would be undertaken at the University of Manchester

Preferred selection method (interview or other meeting):

Interview at the University of Manchester

Support and training offered by the organisation:

We would offer support on aspects of cooking and eating practices and domestic energy consumption to develop hypotheses to explore using the dataset. The student will be given a weekly schedule of who will be available to help them with any queries and to cover any absences for conferences and holidays by the main supervisor Dr Sarah Mander. The student will need to be self-motivated, however, and willing to work for periods without direct close supervision. An evaluation meeting will be held at the end of the internship.

Any issues of data confidentiality and/or IPR that would need to be resolved:

N/A

Supporting information:

Where appropriate, research assistance will be acknowledged on subsequent publications

Financial assistance offered by the organisation:

Unfortunately, we can offer no other financial assistance, but if interested, the student would be invited to the Tyndall Assembly in Manchester in September, an event focused on climate mitigation and adaptation