Advanced methods for multi-disciplinary doctoral education:
Big Data in Health Services

31 August – 5 September 2017

Are you interested in developing your skills related to research methods? Do you want to gain more experience in international networking and collaboration? This is a unique opportunity to participate in a multi-disciplinary doctoral program!

The doctoral program “Advanced methods for multi-disciplinary doctoral education: Big Data in Health Services” will be held at University of Turku, Finland on 31 August – 5 September 2017. The program will be run in collaboration between Finnish Universities (University of Turku, Åbo Akademi, University of Eastern Finland, University of Tampere) and Chinese Universities (Sichuan University and Hong Kong Polytechnic University). The program is designed for doctoral students in different disciplines (e.g. health sciences, nursing, and medicine).

The one-week program (31 Aug – 5 Sept 2017) supports doctoral students’ methodological and communication skills, ability to cooperate in an international environment, increase an understanding of different cultures and further develop students’ transferable skills. The program includes lecturing, seminars, meetings and small group works. More specifically, the doctoral program (1, 4 – 5 Sept 2017) aims to provide students with an understanding of how big data can be utilized in health services research. This includes overview of how big data is organized, key concepts of how it can be analyzed, and interpreted.

The program costs will be funded by the Finnish CIMO’s Asia-programme. From the successful applicants, we are expecting students to demonstrate their interest to develop their methodological skills and a willingness to share their views with a network of international academics. Program participation includes preparatory learning tasks and active participation in each program day.

Students will be selected for the one-week program based on their applications. The selection process will be handled by the Course Management Committee of the project based on students’ applications. If there are more applicants than places available, applicants will be interviewed at the home university.

The application period for the program is 4-18 April 2017. For the application form, please see a separate Appendix. Applications should be sent via email to: tejela@utu.fi. Decisions about successful applicants will be made on 27th April 2017. The students will be notified whether they are selected for the program by 1st May, 2017. More detailed program will be provided for selected students on May 2017.

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**Big Data:** electronic datasets, large and complex, which are difficult to manage with traditional methods. Big Data includes diversity of data types, i.e. clinical records and health research records.

Frost & Sullivan: Drowning in Big Data?