



**PhD Studentship  
Local Governance Research Unit  
Department of Politics and Public Policy  
Starting October 2013**

**City Leadership in Times of Austerity (Professor Colin Copus)**

The **Local Governance Research Unit** (LGRU) in the Department of Politics and Public Policy is delighted to announce a full PhD studentship, covering fees and stipend. The successful candidates will work with a team of internationally renowned researchers in local politics and public policy. The studentship is an outstanding opportunity for an ambitious and talented graduate student to contribute to our exciting research on local political leadership and austerity governance.

The studentship explores *City leadership in Times of Austerity*. The research will focus on the processes, forms and structures local political leaders and chief executives develop to work with public and private bodies in tackling problems of economic regeneration and urban growth under austerity.

For further information visit our website: <http://www.dmu.ac.uk/research/research-faculties-and-institutes/business-and-law/lgru/local-governance-research-unit.aspx> and / or contact Professor Colin Copus at [ccopus@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:ccopus@dmu.ac.uk) . For details of Professor Copus' research see: <http://www.dmu.ac.uk/about-dmu/academic-staff/business-and-law/professor-colin-copus/professor-colin-copus.aspx>

Applications are invited from UK and EU students who have a good MA/MSc degree, or are projected to achieve one. The scholarships are available for up to three years full-time study starting October 2013 and provide a bursary of £13,770 pa in addition to university tuition fees.

To download an application pack, please visit the Graduate School Office website: <http://www.dmu.ac.uk/research/graduate-school/phd-scholarships.aspx>  
Or contact the Graduate School Office via email at: [researchstudents@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:researchstudents@dmu.ac.uk)  
Completed applications should be returned to [researchstudents@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:researchstudents@dmu.ac.uk) together with two supporting references.

Please quote ref: DMU Research Scholarships 2013

**CLOSING DATE: Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2013**

Further details can be found below



## PhD Studentship

### Local Governance Research Unit

### Department of Politics and Public Policy

### Starting October 2013

The **Local Governance Research Unit** in the Department of Politics and Public Policy is delighted to announce a full PhD studentship, covering fees and stipend. The successful candidates will work with a team of internationally renowned researchers in local politics and public policy. The studentship is an outstanding opportunity for an ambitious and talented graduate student to contribute to our exciting research on crisis and austerity governance.

#### City Leadership in Times of Austerity

The studentship, supervised by Professor Colin Copus, will explore *City leadership in Times of Austerity*. The research will focus on the processes, forms and structures local political leaders and chief executives (C/E) develop to work with public and private bodies over which they have no direct control, in tackling problems of economic regeneration and local growth. Austerity is a dominant feature of the political landscape and likely to remain so in the foreseeable future. The effectiveness of the response from local political leaders, to the pressures for reductions in public provision at a time of growing demand, will depend on the strategies developed in a situation where political leaders must wield influence rather than power over a range of external organisations – public and private. In the context of England, for example, Local Enterprise Partnerships are a key external body with which leaders and C/Es must engage to stimulate local economies; exploring and understanding such external engagement, wherever it takes place, is central to the research.

What cities leaders do is important to local and central government policy success, economic growth and public service transformation critical at a time of austerity. But there is no clear picture of:

- how city leaders engage in governance networks to shape policy responses to problems and pursue economic growth;
- the strategies they devise to enhance governing capacity to solve complex issues in times of austerity;
- how learning is transferred across the public and private sector,
- how city leaders employ a democratic mandate to construct coalitions around policy problems.

The research will explore key areas of concern for policy-makers and practitioners, focusing on:

1. What factors stimulate or hinder the influence leaders and C/Es have in governance networks?
2. What strategies do leaders and C/Es develop to enhance their influence in governance networks?
3. How do leaders and C/Es co-operate across councils, sectors and the public-private boundary, to solve policy problems?
4. What lessons can be learned from strong and accountable city leadership in times of austerity?
5. How the concepts of policy entrepreneurs, policy communication and information networks and lesson drawing can be used to strengthen policy transfer within local government.

For further information visit our website: <http://www.dmu.ac.uk/research/research-faculties-and-institutes/business-and-law/lgru/local-governance-research-unit.aspx> and / or contact Professor Colin Copus at [ccopus@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:ccopus@dmu.ac.uk) . For details of Professor Copus' research see: <http://www.dmu.ac.uk/about-dmu/academic-staff/business-and-law/professor-colin-copus/professor-colin-copus.aspx>

### **Further Details and Applications**

We welcome applications for the studentship from UK and EU students who have, or are predicted to achieve, a strong master's degree. You should submit a scholarly research proposal of up to 1000 words (plus references) with your application and may focus on any of the topics suggested above, or an alternative related topic of your choice within the confines of the main studentship themes. The studentship is available for up to three years full-time study starting October 2013 and provides a bursary of £13,770 pa in addition to university tuition fees.

To download an application pack, please visit the Graduate School Office website: <http://www.dmu.ac.uk/research/graduate-school/phd-scholarships.aspx>

Or contact the Graduate School Office via email at: [researchstudents@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:researchstudents@dmu.ac.uk)

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