

UiO : Faculty of Medicine

University of Oslo

Description of Position –1-2 Professors/Associate Professors of Medicine (Medical Ethics) at the Institute of Health and Society, Centre for Medical Ethics

The Institute of Health and Society (HELSAM) has 1-2 vacant positions as Professors or Associate Professors (depending on academic qualifications). HELSAM bases its work on a complex understanding of the interconnectedness of sickness, health and the health systems. Policy, culture, the environment, the society as well as biology interact. This complexity characterises the research, teaching and service at the Institute. Tenure is linked to the Institute, but the current faculty positions will be allocated to the Centre for Medical Ethics.

The Centre for Medical Ethics (CME) is a multidisciplinary department that consists of researchers with disciplinary backgrounds in medicine and the health professions, social sciences and the humanities. CME works in the areas of medical and health care ethics and scientific integrity through research, teaching and public engagement. We cover the whole spectrum from the concrete ethical dilemmas in clinical practice to biomedical research ethics, and also do research in foundational areas of theoretic medical ethics and medical philosophy (<https://www.med.uio.no/helsam/english/about/organization/departments/medical-ethics/>).

The centre has three prioritised research areas: 1) foundational investigations in ethics and philosophy of medicine of relevance to medical ethics, 2) ethical issues in clinical medicine and health care, 3) biomedical research ethics and research integrity.

CME is responsible for teaching ethics in the medical, dentistry, and nutrition science undergraduate curricula, as well as in various master-level courses. The centre is also responsible for supervision of PhD students and for teaching research ethics, research integrity and philosophy of science at the Faculty of Medicine's PhD courses, post doc programme and faculty development. CME has a national responsibility for strengthening and promoting ethical reflection and ethical competence in Norwegian health care services.

According to the regulations at the Faculty of Medicine, the person appointed will lead and initiate research, supervise researchers, participate in teaching students and research fellows and undertake duties in connection with examinations, as well as undertaking administrative tasks as required by the prevailing regulations. The Faculty is responsible for teaching (including conducting examinations) for the programmes of professional study in medicine/dentistry and the faculty's bachelor and master programmes. The Faculty is also responsible for providing organised research training. The professorial duties include teaching these groups, including non subject specific supervision tasks, such as PBL-groups (Problem Based Learning) in accordance with the current needs of the faculty, within by the guidelines for working hours in professorial positions. The person appointed is expected to participate in assessment committees for PhD theses, assessment committees regarding appointments and competence promotions, and to take the role as acting dean in disputations.

For each of the two positions 50% of the position will be reserved to standard tasks as associate professor/professor (primarily teaching and research, and some administration and dissemination). This will include teaching in ethics – in particular research ethics and integrity and philosophy of science at various levels at the Faculty of Medicine - and research primarily within research area 1 and 3 above. The other 50% will be reserved for externally funded research.

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The required qualification for an associate professorship is a doctoral degree in the academic field concerned or equivalent expertise, and relevant research experience. The required qualifications for professors follow the national norms for Norwegian medical faculties¹.

Degrees and experience in medicine, other health sciences, ethics, philosophy or other relevant fields, will be regarded as advantageous.

High ambitions and quality of teaching, research and communications is expected.

A doctorate or equivalent qualification in a relevant area is essential, as is documented relevant teaching experience. Expertise within medical and health care ethics in general, and in at least one of the two following areas 1) philosophy of medicine and science, and 2) biomedical research ethics and research integrity, is essential.

It will be emphasized that those who are appointed individually or together have strong competences across the areas of philosophy of medicine, philosophy of science, biomedical research ethics, and research integrity - in order to enable the delivery of high-quality teaching at relevant levels and research in these areas.

Successful grant applications in competitive R&D funds (EU-funds, the Research Council of Norway or similar), or other relevant experience showing an ability to raise external R&D funding in the relevant areas is required. It is expected that the position holders at all times have at least one externally funded R&D project at HELSAM. If only one applicant is appointed, this requirement and expectation may be exempted.

The successful applicant will have a plan for development of her/his research, and for acquiring externally funded research projects. High quality of research, and publishing in peer-reviewed international journals is expected. The applicant is asked to describe his/her research profile, with respect to strategic plans and existing research at the department and institute, with particular emphasis on area 1 and 3 above.

Within 6 months after appointment the successful candidate must provide a 3-year plan for future research in line with the strategic priorities at the department and the institute. The plan is to be presented for the head of department.

Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to create an attractive research environment will be emphasised. Active collaboration, also interdisciplinary and internationally is expected.

The basis for the assessment of the applicant will include the education and training, scientific production and quality, including the ability to raise external R&D funding, professional and academic experience, teaching experience and qualifications as well as the documented experience in administration and management. As part of the ranking of qualified applicants, the full scope of these qualifications will be explicitly assessed. Particular weight will be attached to qualifications that are central to the job description. Educational and scientific qualifications will carry more weight than other qualifications. Originality and innovation will be given priority before volume, and recent publications will be weighted higher than older ones.

In the final review and recommendation, emphasis will be laid on skills related to the job description, the evaluation done by the assessment committee, evaluation of personal suitability

¹ [Information for applicants and assessment committees on appointments to academic posts as professor, associate professor, and promotion from post as associate professor to professor on qualification - University of Oslo \(uio.no\)](https://uio.no/en/for-employees/academic-staff/academic-positions)

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for the position based on interviews and references obtained, pedagogical qualifications and ability to disseminate scientific knowledge, plans for further research and ambitions for his/her teaching.

Applicants, who at the time of appointment cannot provide documentary evidence of basic teaching competence, must acquire such competence in the course of a period of two years.

Applicants who are not competent in Norwegian, Swedish or Danish must acquire such competence within two years subsequent to their appointment, and must be competent in English in the interim period.

As a main rule, interviews will be held and references will be collected, and the applicants will normally be required to give a trial lecture.

The University of Oslo wishes to appoint more women to permanent academic positions. Women are encouraged to apply. The University of Oslo also wishes to appoint more people from ethnic minorities to permanent academic positions. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

The University of Oslo has an intellectual property agreement that applies to all employees, with the aim of securing rights to research results etc.

Date: 19.01.2021

Signature: 