Senior Campaign Manager (Consultant position): The Future of Scientific Publishing Project

The ISC is looking for a consultant to lead the Future of Scientific Publishing project. This is a temporary position (12 months with the possibility of extension for up to another 6 months). This position will require up to 20 hours a week with some flexibility and need for more intense periods of work during certain parts of the campaign cycle.

Possibility of remote work from anywhere in the world. Candidates from different geographical and disciplinary backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Strong project management experience required along with experience and knowledge related to scientific publishing, especially recent developments in the sector including open access publishing.

About the ISC
The International Science Council (ISC) is a non-governmental organization with a unique global membership that brings together 40 international scientific Unions and Associations and over 140 national and regional scientific organizations including Academies and Research Councils.

About the project
Accessible publication of the results and ideas arising from research is a fundamental part of the scientific enterprise. Yet technological change, an explosion in demand for journal outlets, monopolistic behaviour on the part of some publishers, and the use of journal impact factors and cited publications as primary indicators of scientific merit have created systemic instability in scientific publishing.

Today many institutions and researchers are excluded from accessing articles that are hidden behind paywalls, and there are increasing calls for the reform of scientific publishing in order to further the global progress of science. The system is no longer fulfilling the needs of its main audience: scholarly researchers and the institutions in which they work.

At the same time, Open Access is widely seen as a means to overcome inequities in access to knowledge, particularly in poorer countries and institutions, and ultimately to increase the use of scientific evidence in decision-making. However, routes to Open Access are far from resolved, as recent debates around the ‘Plan S’ initiative have demonstrated. The scientific publishing model is ripe for renewal.

The ISC’s project on the Future of Scientific Publishing has established a set of principles for scientific publishing to maximize benefit to global science and wider audiences for scientific research; and is now moving into an advocacy phase to encourage their uptake among the wider community of science producers, users, funders and publishers. In this phase the Council seeks to engage and collaborate with its members, national and international funders, with universities, with open science bodies, publishers and individual scientists to create a powerful and broadly-based coalition for change to ensure that the
processes of efficient dissemination and use of scientific work are central parts of a revitalized open science. To find out more about the project and outputs visit the project page: https://council.science/actionplan/future-of-scientific-publishing/

About the role
The consultant will be expected to manage the project including related processes and time-bound outputs. Specific tasks would include:

- Being in the lead for co-designing and running the advocacy campaign involving reaching out to various stakeholder groups.
- Supporting the work of the Steering Group and Advisory groups related to the project including setting up meetings, ensuring timely and efficient flow of information and supporting the development of outputs.
- Developing further (with the Steering Group’s advice) the project work plan including project/programme milestones and timeframes and budgets.
- Liaising and networking with ISC Members and external partners relevant to the project.
- Working closely with the ISC team (including with the communication team for dissemination of project outputs as well as the management and science teams to maintain synergies with other related projects).
- Ensuring the timely delivery of quality project outputs including reports, papers, webinars etc.
- Maintaining regular communication with the ISC team, project Chair and Steering Committee, ensuring follow-up on deadlines, proposing and implementing corrective actions as required.
- Organizing meetings and events as required in the ambit of the project including organizing and hosting virtual workshops.
- Ensuring the appropriate development of communication outputs throughout the life cycle of the project.
- Report to the Science Director about project progress.
- Contributing, as relevant, to identifying and following-up on fundraising opportunities.

Requirements

- More than 5 years of relevant experience, including demonstrated experience in the design and roll-out of impactful international advocacy campaigns.
- Knowledge of processes and current debates and discussions regarding scientific publishing and related issues (open access, peer review, alternative business models for publishing etc.) is essential.
- Outstanding organizational skills, including prioritizing and working efficiently and effectively under deadlines and ability to support the work of the project steering committee and related working groups, including meeting organization and document preparation.
- A knowledge of the landscape of organizations in the science publishing field would be an asset. Demonstrated ability to develop good working relationships, liaise and coordinate activities with several organizations is essential.
- Strong inter-personal skills, ideally with experience working remotely as well as the ability to work with stakeholders and partners from different countries and cultures.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Fluency in English is essential. Fluency in other languages would be an additional asset.
- High degree of skill and comfort in using MS Office Suite (Word, Excel and PowerPoint) as well as video conferencing platforms (such as MS Teams and Zoom).
How to Apply
Please send the following documents to recruitment@council.science before the deadline

- Cover letter (one page maximum)
- Resume/CV (two pages maximum)
- Candidates are encouraged to include links to any relevant published work

Deadline:
23:59 CET 16 January 2022