

**THE UNIVERSITY
OF SHEFFIELD**

**Postgraduate School of
Librarianship and Information
Science**

**OSTI POSTDOCTORAL
RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS
IN INFORMATION SCIENCE**

APPLICATIONS are invited FROM WELL-QUALIFIED GRADUATES for consideration for these awards to be made available in open competition by the Office for Scientific and Technical Information. Fellowships are normally tenable for up to 2 years. Candidates for Fellowships must be British subjects normally resident in the United Kingdom and should have, or expect to have by October 1st 1973, a doctoral degree in the natural or social sciences or their technologies. Conditions of eligibility are similar to those applied by S.R.C. The value of the Fellowships is likely to be broadly aligned with the University lecturer scale.

Fellowship awards are intended to encourage advanced information science research. Applicants wishing to discuss a research idea or proposal should contact Mr. N. Roberts (0742-78555, ext. 5).

Formal applications should be addressed to Professor W. L. Saunders, Director, PGSLIS, University of Sheffield, Western Bank, Sheffield, S10 2TN, and should be submitted as soon as possible. Quote Ref. R24/E.

C-442 Defence Colony
New Delhi 110024

6 June 1973

Dear Prof. Saunders,

I am writing in response to your advertisement for OSTI post-doctoral fellowships in information science (ref: R24/E) in the Observer of the 3rd June. Since this letter emanates from India, I had better attempt to establish eligibility straightaway.

I am told that, by the British Nationality Act, 1948, Indian citizens are still regarded as British subjects. Anthony Lester in an article in the same issue of the Observer (leader page) seems to confirm this. I have been away from the U.K. for less than two years (I will complete two years in January, 1974) and, having lived in the UK for over six years prior to January 1972 paying British taxes, I am told I can be regarded as a person normally resident in the UK.

As recorded in the enclosed bio-data, I have a Ph.D. from Imperial College, London. While I was doing my Ph.D. my interests broadened and I became particularly concerned with questions of policy in science and technology. I moved in '70 to the Science Policy Research Unit in the University of Sussex on a one-year fellowship. I am currently a member of the secretariat of the National Committee on Science and Technology (NCST). This body is roughly the equivalent counterpart of the former British Council for Scientific Policy. The NCST is currently engaged in preparing a national science & technology plan for India. I am terminating my employment with the NCST in July this year.

While I have been with the NCST, I have had confirmed to me in practice what could be expected a priori; namely, that good information management is the key to successful planning. Yet, nobody to my knowledge has examined in any great detail the organisation of information in science & technology with a view to using such information as an essential input into the process of socio-economic planning.

I am interested in developing an information system in the area of science, technology and development that could cater to the needs of planners and administrators in developed and developing countries. I am interested in developing not only the software of the system but would also like to evolve the institutional and other mechanisms through which the system may be ~~implemented~~ used.

I am already familiar with the design of some of the basic tools of information systems-- thesauri, for example. I have no hands-on familiarity with computer-based information systems but am conversant with the main elements of such systems. Since the bio-data ~~was~~ were prepared, I have been a member of

the User Needs group of the proposed International Referral Service of the UN Environment Programme and have just sent them draft user needs questionnaires.

For several reasons, some personal, I wish to move to the UK. (I am prepared to elaborate on these reasons if it really becomes material to my application.) This will mean that I will be available for employment as an information scientist in the UK and would therefore be a potential contributor to the British economy if I did get the fellowship.

If I am eligible, as I believe I am, I should like to be considered for one of your fellowships.

Yours sincerely,

(V. Siddhartha)



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POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL OF LIBRARIANSHIP AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

WESTERN BANK SHEFFIELD S10 2TN TELEPHONE 0742 78555 TELEX 548348

Director: Professor W. L. SAUNDERS, MA FLA

2nd July, 1973.

Dr. V. Siddhartha,
C-442, Defence Colony,
New Delhi-110024,
India.

Dear Dr. Siddhartha,

Thank you for your application for an OSTI Postdoctoral Fellowship. I apologize for the delay in replying. I regret that according to the regulations applying to OSTI Fellowships you are outside the specified age limits.

Yours sincerely,

G. W. Adamson

Dr. G. W. Adamson.