



GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY
J. Mack Robinson College of Business

Associate Director of the Center for the Economic Analysis of Risk

The J. Mack Robinson College of Business invites qualified nominations and applications to be the Associate Director (AD) of the Center for the Economic Analysis of Risk (CEAR) to begin August 2011. The successful applicant will also have an appointment as an academic professional in Robinson's nationally ranked Department of Risk Management and Insurance.

The Center for the Economic Analysis of Risk

Established in 2009, the mission of the Center for the Economic Analysis of Risk (CEAR) is to conduct and promote economic research on the measurement and management of risks faced by individuals, households, institutions and societies. The vision of CEAR is to develop the field of "risk" into a well-defined, inter-disciplinary area of study, and for CEAR to be viewed as the world's intellectual leader in the conduct and dissemination of risk research. CEAR will realize its vision by achieving the following goals:

1. CEAR research informs scholarly and policy debate on the most important economic and social questions related to risk.
2. CEAR is recognized as the leading collaborative research center that enables scholars from around the world to interact to address these important topics.
3. CEAR fosters a critical mass of academics and researchers from multiple disciplines, including economics, accounting, finance, law and mathematics, who identify themselves as risk scholars.
4. CEAR propagates the next generation of risk scholars.
5. CEAR is recognized as the leading resource for policymakers and business professionals seeking to address challenging risk problems.

The human capital necessary to achieve these goals will be coordinated through an international network of researchers representing a wide range of disciplines. Some will be faculty members at Georgia State University, while others will be researchers from around the world who agree to establish ties with CEAR. These CEAR Research Fellows will conduct basic and applied research; will participate in CEAR workshops and GSU seminars. CEAR will provide monetary awards to CEAR research fellows and CEAR Ph.D. Fellows in the risk-related Ph.D. programs at GSU. CEAR will leverage virtual technology to create a sense of community among these scholars. In this way,

CEAR will have a global reach while establishing GSU as the focal point for risk-related research worldwide.

CEAR will provide an infrastructure that makes it attractive for associates to secure external funding for their risk-related research through CEAR. Over time, CEAR is expected to build a reputation for premier research that can be leveraged into relationships with funding agencies, foundations and companies such that it can support research proposals from researchers who might not otherwise have the organizational relationships to get funded. The CEAR-affiliated researcher gets access to an infrastructure that can improve the quality of the proposal through internal critique and edit, access to the network, and funding; CEAR gets the overhead recoveries.

The content produced in conjunction with CEAR activities will be available online. The CEAR digital presence will serve as a credential for CEAR itself, a tool for academic and policy pedagogy, and as a model for similar research communities.

CEAR is based in the nationally ranked Department of Risk Management & Insurance located in the J. Mack Robinson College of Business. It has formal ties to Robinson's Department of Finance and School of Accountancy, the Economics Department of the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at GSU, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. CEAR is led by a Director, six Program Directors from universities around the world, an internal advisory board representing the founding partners of CEAR, and a governance committee.

The Position

The AD of CEAR will report directly to the Director. The Director and AD form the senior leadership team for CEAR. A CEAR Business Manager (BM) and an Executive Assistant to the Director reports to the AD. The Director has overall responsibility for CEAR and primary responsibility to drive the research agenda for CEAR.

The successful candidate to the AD position will manage the CEAR office; develop the infrastructure necessary to support the research activities of CEAR-affiliated faculty; develop appropriate communication strategies for CEAR to reach out to a variety of constituencies; and develop, foster and nurture a common sense of community and shared purpose among all members of the CEAR network.

Key Accountabilities

1 Strategic Communication

- a. Nurture the sense of community amongst CEAR Program Directors, CEAR Research Fellows, CEAR PhD Fellows and Advisory Board members, to ensure these groups are well informed and actively engaged in CEAR's agenda. The AD will need to have good social networking skills, and be able to use those skills across multiple groups in physical and virtual environments to help CEAR create a culture that fosters inquiry across the individual research topics.
- b. Efficiently inform public, private and academic communities about the outcomes of CEAR research, recognizing the specific strategies these groups use to become informed. The AD will be an excellent communicator, will recognize and adapt to the informational needs of the different stakeholder groups CEAR seeks to influence, will have the skills necessary to identify the individuals and organizations we wish to

- influence, and will be able to develop communication and change management strategies that accomplish the objective.
- c. Provide oversight of CEAR staff to ensure the successful delivery of CEAR workshops, seminars, master classes, and other activities.

2 Networking and Facilitation

- a. Serve as the intermediary between CEAR associates seeking funding and the individuals, foundations, and private sector corporations that might provide that funding. The AD will have the interpersonal and networking skills to be viewed by the members of the CEAR community as a trusted advisor that can help them secure funding, someone with the intellectual prowess to identify the strengths of projects and guide the development of high quality proposals, and someone who can execute an effective approach to maximize the chances for success of application submitted through CEAR.
- b. Exercise the leadership and networking skills necessary to build relationships with funding agencies in non-profit, government and private sectors.
- c. Ensure a high quality experience for all individuals that interact with CEAR, either physically in Atlanta or virtually through the CEAR network. Utilizing the latest communication, collaboration and knowledge management technologies, the AD will develop and oversee the implementation of strategies designed to create a sense of community amongst the researchers and staff formally associated with CEAR.
- d. Cultivate relationships and partnerships with both internal and external stakeholders. Must be able to represent CEAR with senior leaders from business, government and industry.
- e. Actively identify research that has the potential to be funded, pursuing funding opportunities for CEAR associates, and serving, when appropriate, as an intermediary between the researcher and the funding agency.

3 Operational Excellence

- a. As a trusted advisor to the CEAR Director, shepherd the implementation of the strategic direction of CEAR, including the formalization of development, governance and operational policies designed to achieve its objectives.
- b. Define and report on operational metrics to measure progress toward success.
- c. With oversight from the Director, drive the yearly operational planning process for CEAR by engaging the appropriate senior leadership of CEAR and participating in the process.
- d. Provide executive leadership in the development of budgetary and financial policies consistent with long-term strategies. Provide leadership and oversight to the CEAR BM.
- e. Manage the day to day operational functions of CEAR, to include quarterly reporting on goals and objectives, budget requirements, events and content development for the CEAR website.
- f. In consultation with the Director, the AD will perform annual evaluations of the CEAR BM and Executive Assistant to the Director.

Required Background and Skills

Strong Social Networking and Partnering Skills: It is vital that the individual be able to construct creative relationships among faculty members, researchers, Ph.D. students, and board members

associated with CEAR. The candidate must demonstrate they can help shape strategy, and then follow up to implement strategies designed to engage the members of the broad community in a way that is respectful of their research needs.

Strong Implementation and Organizational Skills: The ideal candidate must have the ability to help develop appropriate plans, and to identify items that should be considered and then to make “things happen” once decisions are made. The candidate must be able to turn strategic thinking into genuine action, and must drive the agenda to ensure the goals are actually met. In particular, the ideal candidate would need to manage and evaluate the performance of the CEAR staff on a regular basis.

Strong Communication Skills: The individual must be a confident communicator: someone that can accurately and effectively communicate the results of research tailored to the needs and tastes of the various types of audiences (academic, policy, industry).

Technical Communication Skills: The candidate should have a proven track record developing and implementing communication strategies to target audiences. The AD will oversee the development of constituent databases, should have working knowledge of traditional and internet media, and should proactively identify opportunities to make the target community aware of CEAR’s research and capabilities.

It is necessary that the AD has graduate academic qualifications such as a Masters degree or PhD in a appropriate fields. Significant professional experience is necessary if the degree is non-terminal, such as a Masters. Salary would be commensurate with experience and qualifications, appropriate for an academic environment, and would include standard health and retirement benefits. Appointment at GSU would be as an “academic professional” and does not require teaching, although access to the classroom is possible given the skills and desires of the candidate.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Information about J. Mack Robinson College of Business, the Department of Risk Management and Insurance and on CEAR is online at robinson.gsu.edu, rmi.gsu.edu, and at cear.gsu.edu, respectively. Questions about the position can be directed to the Director of CEAR, Professor Glenn Harrison, at gharrison@gsu.edu. Preference will be given to applications received by June 17, 2011, and applications will be reviewed until the position is filled. This position is contingent upon final budget approval by the university. Application materials should be e-mailed to cear@gsu.edu. If necessary you can mail materials to

Chair, CEAR Associate Director Search Committee
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