

Part-time Research Assistant, KDI School of Public Policy and Management

Position: Part-time Research Assistant

Employer: KDI School

Start date: ASAP

Who We Are:

We are a team led by Josh Merfeld (KDI School), Seonghoon Kim (Singapore Management University), and Martin Rotemberg (New York University). We are starting a project to understand the long-run changes in the South Korean economy, with an interest in understanding how industrial policy can promote development.

The Role:

We are currently seeking a Part-time Research Assistant to support our project. The position will last for five months. Further details on the project are outlined below.

The position requires a self-starting candidate who is comfortable with archival work and who can provide with high quality cleaning and rigorous analysis of both primary and secondary data. The selected candidate will join a team of international researchers to work on cutting-edge development research, and gain first-hand research experience which will particularly useful for someone interested in pursuing a PhD.

About the project:

The study will document the structural transformation of the South Korean economy, 1960-1990. We are interested in changes in migration patterns, occupational choices, and educational attainment, and in particular the interplay between the three. The research produced will contain both new quantitative facts about the setting, as well as develop economic theory to interpret the facts and evaluate contemporaneous policy choices.

Responsibilities:

- Conduct archival research to find primary sources, as well as oversee efforts to digitize and translate those sources
- GIS work to produce high-quality maps
- Conduct data cleaning and analysis using multiple primary and secondary data sources
- Review and report on academic literature of requested topics in support of research projects
- Others, as required

Basic Qualifications:

- Excellent oral and written English and Korean skills. Please note that fluency in Korean is required for this position due to the nature of the research.
- Proficiency in Stata or R is required; experience in spatial analysis is valuable but not required.
- Mature, self-directed individual with ability to balance multiple tasks and prioritize effectively to meet deadlines.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience with data-based research, preferably in economics or a related field. Experience with archival data is a plus.

The location for the position is flexible, and little travel will be required.

How to Apply:

If you are interested in this position, please email Professor Josh Merfeld (merfeld@kdis.ac.kr) your CV and a short statement about why you are interested and qualified.