

ABOUT THE YALE RESEARCH INITIATIVE ON INNOVATION AND SCALE (Y-RISE)

Given the extent of poverty throughout the world, effectively addressing it will require large-scale changes to markets and policies. Governments and NGOs are rising to this challenge, taking evidence-based policies to ambitious new scales. However, a gap exists between that ambition and the existing evidence; increasing the scale of an antipoverty intervention can change how it works, and only recently have social scientists begun to grapple with the complexities of scaling up interventions and applying them in new contexts.

With this newly-created research initiative at Yale University, our goal is to develop the science behind scaling up effective interventions, define that emerging research agenda, and scale-up a few promising interventions in the process. To that end, Y-RISE will build research networks, host academic network meetings and conferences, connect researchers to implementing partners, and make seed grants to develop new research. Y-RISE research will have direct policy implications, advancing efforts to bring the most good to the most people, so we publicize and advocate the policy lessons from our research.

ABOUT THE JOB

Title: Y-RISE Director

Organization: Yale Research Initiative On Innovation and Scale (Y-RISE) – Yale University

Country: United States

Education: Ph.D. in Economics or Related Field, or Master's with several years of relevant experience

Language Requirement: English

Length of Commitment: two years or more

Start Date: July 1, 2018 or when Position is Filled

Job Location: Yale University campus in New Haven, Connecticut

Job summary

Y-RISE seeks a dedicated and creative leader to serve as its first Director. This is no caretaker or administrative role; rather, joining at these formative stages presents the opportunity to chart the course. The Y-RISE Director will report to the Faculty Director (Mushfiq Mobarak, Professor of Economics, Yale University), but operate with significant autonomy and discretion. As such, this position is ideal for someone who is self-directed, self-motivated, and excited about the potential of research and policy to address poverty around the world.

The Director will support and participate in research. This support will take several forms, including the recruitment and allocation of research support staff and the maintenance of Y-RISE's network of scholars. The Director will oversee and improve key activities including conferences, grantmaking, and research support staff. In collaboration with network scholars, the Director will produce research and / or policy outputs. S/he will also manage relationships with donors.

Periodic travel, both domestic and international, in support of Y-RISE mission is anticipated.

Responsibilities

- With a substantial degree of initiative, the Program Director will conceive, develop, and implement all activities in service of Y-RISE's mission to advance research on scale. Anticipated activities include the recruitment and maintenance of networks of scholars, the recruitment and allocation of research support staff, conferences, grantmaking, fostering partnerships, and impactful communications.
- Foster partnerships with and between researchers, policymakers, and other implementing organizations.
- Design and oversee public relations strategies in service of 3 goals: guiding and promoting research on scale, influencing the adoption and design of policy, and securing continued philanthropic support for Y-RISE.
- Direct a team that will include a program manager, research associates, and postdocs.
- Develop an evaluation framework to assess the strengths of the program and to identify areas for improvement. Responsible for measurements of grant success and related evaluations.
- Develop and manage the program's operating budget.
- Manage fundraising, grant writing, and grant reporting activities. Collaborate with Yale Development to identify funding opportunities, draft proposals, monitor grant spending, and write reports.
- Develops and directs the administrative infrastructure of the program.
- Serves as Council liaison University wide among faculty, managers, development, and support staff.

Skills and abilities

- Demonstrated vision and strategic thinking to stimulate research in a novel and challenging area; ability developing systems, events, and activities to promote research.
- Comfort and familiarity with research in development economics, including methods, questions of interest, and standards of evidence. Knowledgeable and well networked in evidence-based policy research.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate clearly and persuasively to multiple audiences; strong written, presentation, and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to secure cooperation and inputs from policymakers, implementers, donors, and researchers, and build strong partnerships between them.
- Outstanding management skills; identify and deploy the strengths of subordinates; organize and motivate subordinates.
- Demonstrated effective fundraising skills; history of successful proposal writing.
- Ability to work independently, multi-task, use good judgment, work under pressure and meet deadlines.

Qualifications and experience

- Master's Degree in a related field plus 7 of work in a related field, or an equivalent combination of education and experience; PhD in Economics or a related field preferred.
- Experience planning, organizing, and implementing various events.
- Experience managing projects and budgets, showing attention to detail and the ability to juggle many tasks.
- Authoring and publishing research in Development Economics or a relevant field is a plus.

To apply to this position, please click [here](#). Please submit a CV, a cover letter that succinctly describes experience and qualification relevant to this job description, and one or more writing samples or publications.