

**Job Description**

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| Job Title: | University Research Fellowship |
| Faculty/Department: | Energy & Environment Institute and School affiliation |
| Reporting to: | Director of the Energy and Environment Institute |
| Duration: | Fixed Term - 5 years |
| Job Family: | Academic |
| Pay Band: | 7 |
| Benchmark Profile: | Research Band 7 |
| DBS Disclosure requirement: | No |
| Vacancy Reference: | FS0298 |

**Details Specific to the Post**

**Background and Context**

Rich in tradition, the University of Hull has a proud heritage of academic excellence and a history of creating and inspiring transformative impact. The University has recently celebrated its 90th anniversary that coincides with the City of Hull being selected as the UK City of Culture for 2017.

The Humber, in recent years, has seen enormous investment in its offshore renewables industry, firmly reinforcing its position as the UK’s ‘Energy Estuary’. As well as offshore wind, there are major opportunities in renewables, such as biofuels, waste to energy, and wave/tidal power generation. This has been facilitated by the Green Port Hull investment programmes, supported by the Government’s Regional Growth Fund, to establish the Humber as a world-class centre for renewable energy.

The University of Hull, as an ‘anchor’ institution, is strategically committed to the energy and environment sectors. With the recent establishment of the new Energy and Environment Institute in 2016, and the appointment of Professor Daniel Parsons as the Institute Director, with the strategic objective to establish the Institute as a recognised world-leading centre of excellence in energy and environment research, the University is committed to bringing together its substantial academic expertise (ca 70 academics) working across the faculties of Science and Engineering, Arts, Cultures and Education, Health Sciences and Business, Law and Politics. Collectively, this area generates a significant portion of the University's research income, and in REF2014, the submission under Geography and Environmental Studies was ranked overall 16th (out of 70) by Research Power, with the Impact Case Studies ranked 3rd nationally.

With the Faculty of Science and Engineering, the Energy and Environment Institute wishes to appoint seven University Research Fellows to create with the Institute Director a strong research steering core to bring together and strengthen the academic expertise across the University, and to support and facilitate new research programmes to complement existing research partnerships that have recently been supported by Siemens, DONG Energy, Centrica and Greenport Hull.

**University Research Fellowships**

The University Research Fellowships aim to provide the opportunity for early career researchers to establish successful academic careers at the University of Hull, contribute towards the Institute’s ambitious research plans and make a significant and impactful contribution to its research performance, and assist the Institute with meetings its objectives as set out in the University’s Research Strategy.

The University Research Fellows will be based in the Energy and Environment Institute and will be expected to have a strongaffiliation to one of the three schools in the Faculty of Science and Engineering (Engineering and Computer Science, Environmental Sciences and Mathematics & Physical Sciences). The Fellows will be expected to undertake an independent and/or collaborative research programme to support the Institute’s mission, and have proven expertise in at least one of the following research areas:

* Blade materials, structures and manufacturing
* Surfaces and coatings
* Fault identification and tolerant control
* Sensors and systems
* Array modelling and control
* Sedimentology and the modelling and monitoring of sediment redistribution around wind turbines
* Aquaculture

The 5 year research fellowships are aimed at supporting the transition of the research staff into academic careers, by developing their own independent research ideas and skills that are necessary to establish themselves as the next generation of research leaders. Each Fellowship will be provided with a Research Support Fund (£12k per annum) to cover essential research costs. All Fellows will have the opportunity to apply to the Faculty of Science and Engineering’s Research Support Fund for additional funding to cover conferences, travel and small pieces of research equipment, in addition to the support provided through the Institute.

The University Research Fellows will have:

* A PhD or equivalent qualification in a field that is relevant to the Institute’s Energy and Environment research themes.
* A strong, well-defined and compelling research plan and funding model that will deliver high-quality and impactful research.
* A proven research expertise within their own academic discipline and successful research track record, as evidenced by internationally excellent publications and conference proceedings, and an emerging track record for gaining competitive research funding either individually or/and collaboratively.
* The ability to build strong and effective research networks outside their own discipline and contribute to the successful completion of independent and/or collaborative research projects.

The Institute also welcomes candidates that hold externally-funded research fellowships (or in the process of application) that can be brought to the University of Hull. Examples of substantive research fellowships include: EPSRC Early Career Fellowships, Royal Society University Research Fellowships and European Research Council Starting Grants.

**How to apply**:

Applications must be online; guidance can be found at: https://jobs.hull.ac.uk/vacancies.aspx?cat=760.

Applications must include a:

* Short CV (of no more than 4 sides of A4, minimum font size 12).
* List of publications and conference presentations.
* Clear evidenced-based research plan and funding model (of no more than 10 sides of A4, minimum font size 12) detailing how they would contribute to the named research themes listed above.
* Statement, if in receipt of a substantive externally-funded fellowship, of how they will move the fellowship to the University of Hull, or in the process of application, when the outcome will be known.

Applications will be assessed by the selection panel according to the criteria outlined in the person specification. Shortlisted applicants will be asked to attend a residential recruitment workshop and interview scheduled for May 2017. The costs of attending the workshop will be met by the Institute and details of this will be provided to shortlisted applicants.

To explore the post of University Research Fellow further, or for any queries you may have, please contact:

Professor Dan Parsons, Institute Director, Institute of Energy and Environment. Tel: +44(44)1482 465 343 or +44(44)1482 465 377 (Personal Assistant); E-mail: d.parsons@hull.ac.uk.

Professor David Atkinson, Associate Dean for Research, Faculty of Science and Engineering. Tel: +44(44)1482 465 352 or +44(44)1482 465 377 (Personal Assistant); E-mail: david.atkinson@hull.ac.uk.

Professor Stephen Kelly, Faculty Dean, Faculty of Science and Engineering. Tel: +44(44)1482 465 377 (Personal Assistant); E-mail: dean.sci@hull.ac.uk.

### Specific Duties and Responsibilities of the post

The University Research Fellow is expected to:

* Pursue an independent research programme that is high quality and impactful.
* Attract competitive external research funding from a variety of sources (e.g., Research Councils, Charities, Industry, third stream-income etc) either individually and/or collaboratively, as appropriate to the field or discipline, to create a competitive and sustainable research portfolio.
* Manage research projects effectively as a Principal and/or Co-Investigator.
* Promote the integration of their own research ideas/areas within the Energy and Environment Institute, the Faculty of Science and Engineering and beyond.
* Establish a successful and strongly emerging international reputation for high quality independent research within a defined area.
* Publish high quality research publications and other measurable outputs.
* Be REF-returnable to one of the Units of Assessments within the Faculty of Science and Engineering.
* Contribute to the supervision, training and research of graduate students and other personnel.
* Provide academic leadership and support to staff working in their own research area.
* Maximise impact and public engagement from research undertaken, as appropriate to the discipline.

**GENERIC JOB DESCRIPTION**

The job duties and responsibilities listed below are intended to describe the general nature of the role. The duties and responsibilities and the balance between the elements in the role may change or vary over time depending on the specific needs at a specific point in time or due to changing needs in the department. Candidates should note that there may not be an immediate requirement to carry out all the activities listed below.

### Overall Purpose of the Role

The researcher at this level will be:

* An experienced and professional researcher and will be a subject specialist, drawing upon knowledge gained from postgraduate research and/or working within a Research Band 6 role.
* Associated with a particular project (or projects) and will contribute ideas, and/or enhancement of techniques or methodologies and be expected to take significant initiatives in their work and consult with the Principal Investigator over the details of the project. They will work under supervision and receive academic, pastoral support and guidance which may include specific training, career opportunities and mentoring.

They may contribute to the Department’s teaching, through supervision of projects, overseeing practical classes, or taking small group tutorial classes.

The main focus of the work will involve conducting individual and collaborative research projects under the general guidance of a senior academic or Principal Investigator using new research techniques and methods, analysing and interpreting data and writing up research for publication.

**Main Work Activities**

1. Conduct individual and collaborative research projects to include:

* Using expertise to carry out projects they are working on.
* Contribute to the preparing proposals and applications for external bodies, e.g. for funding and contractual purposes with appropriate support or contribute to the writing of collective bids.
* Use new research techniques and methods.
* Analyse and interpret research data.
* Write up research work of the project and its dissemination through seminar and conferences presentations and publications.

1. Responsible for the management of projects to include:

* Plan and manage own research activity in collaboration with others.
* Manage administrative activities with guidance if required.
* Plan and monitor the work of the project or projects if applicable.

1. Assist with teaching and learning support in own area of study to include:

* Assist in the development of student research skills.
* Assess student knowledge and supervision of projects.
* Supervise and guide final year students.

1. Develop and initiate collaborative working internally and externally to include:

* Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks for exchange of information and to form relationships for future collaboration and to progress their research.
* Develop links and join external networks to share information and identify future potential sources of funding.
* Work with colleagues on joint projects as required.
* Attend and contribute to relevant meetings.

1. Demonstrate evidence of own personal and professional development to include:

* Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism.
* Appraisal, induction and performance reviews.
* Participate in training and development activity.
* Maintain links with professional institutions and other related bodies.
* Collaborate with academic colleagues on areas of shared research interest.

### Additionally the post holder will be required to:

* Fulfil the employees’ duties described in the University’s health and safety policies and co-operate with the health and safety arrangements in place within the department. May be required to undertake specific health and safety roles on request e.g. Display screen equipment assessor, departmental safety officer, fire warden etc.
* Show a commitment to diversity, equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practices this includes undertaking mandatory equality and diversity training.
* Comply with University regulations, policies and procedures.

**PERSON SPECIFICATION – Research Band 7**

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| **Specification** | **Essential** | **Desirable** | **Examples Measured by** |
| **Education and Training**  Formal qualifications and relevant training | * A PhD or equivalent. * Research experience in a relevant discipline. * A clear and evidenced-based research plan and funding model aligned to one or more research themes (provided) that will deliver high quality and impactful research outputs. |  | Application  Interview  Other |
| **Work Experience**  Ability to undertake duties of the post | **Evidence of:**   * An emerging successful track record in a relevant research field. * High-quality research outputs (e.g., publications and presentations at international conferences). * Emerging track record of gaining competitive research funding individually or collaboratively. | * Substantive externally-funded fellowship. * Success in gaining independent research funding. * Experience of post-graduate research supervision. * Experience of working with collaborative partners. | Application  Interview  Other |
| **Skills and Knowledge**  Includes abilities and intellect | **Evidence of:**   * Participation in networks that seek to promote research collaboration. * Effective management of resources. * Contribution to the supervision of undergraduate project, masters or PhD students. |  | Application  Interview  Other |
| **Personal Qualities**  Includes any specific physical requirements of the post – (subject to the provisions of the Equality Act 2010) | **Evidence of:**   * An expectation to positively contribute to University activities and initiatives. * Show evidence of collaborative working, particularly on interdisciplinary activities. * Evidence of working in an open and transparent way, providing information and communicating effectively with colleagues. * Evidence of Continuous Professional Development. |  | Application  Interview  Other |