



The
University
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Sheffield.

About
The
Job.

Faculty of Social Sciences

Sheffield Political Economy Research Institute

Research Fellow

Overview

The Sheffield Political Economy Research Institute (SPERI) aims to bring together leading international researchers in the social sciences, including policy-makers, journalists and opinion formers, to reassess and develop substantive proposals to respond to the political and economic challenges posed by the global financial crisis and its legacy.

At the heart of such challenges is the problem of growth – where it will come from, how it will be sustained and how it might be made both environmentally and institutionally sustainable. These are challenges for the world economy as a whole as they are for the local, regional and national economies which together comprise it.

SPERI will bring the analytical insights offered by a genuinely interdisciplinary political economy to bear on these pressing problems, providing a context in which policy-makers and academics can come together to explore and develop the growth strategies of the future.

SPERI will provide a home for visiting researchers and policy-makers from the UK and beyond and an international focus for debate, discussion and policy development in the wake of the global financial crisis. It builds on the activities of the University's longstanding Political Economy Research Centre (PERC) and seeks now to take the work of this centre to another stage.

SPERI's research themes include:

- Thinking through the theoretical basis of a sustainable new model of political economy
- Understanding and resolving the British growth crisis
- Analysing the changing political architecture of the Eurozone
- Assessing the emerging role of the BRICs in the new world order
- Reflecting on the G20's leadership and management of the global political economy

We now seek to appoint two exceptional Research Fellows to help shape, develop and lead SPERI's research agenda over the next three years. You will hold a PhD in a relevant area (or have equivalent experience) and maintain research activity of a substantial external reputation. This will be achieved through: generating research income and

direction for self and others, conducting high quality research, producing research publications of exceptional quality and impact, supervising research students and research staff, participating actively in the development and implementation of the department and the Faculty's research strategy.

Job Description

Main Duties and Responsibilities

- Conduct internationally recognised innovative research, as well as encouraging and supporting research activities of other staff across the Faculty.
- Develop funding strategies, identify and prepare quality applications for, and the management of, external research grants.
- Generate research funding to finance research projects through applications to the appropriate bodies.
- Disseminate research findings through publications in high impact journals and the presentation of keynote papers at conferences.
- Supervise and attract high quality postgraduate students.
- Review manuscripts for peer-reviewed journals and research grants for national and international research funders.
- Contribute significantly to the development and implementation of the Faculty research strategy.
- Be involved in professional activities such as refereeing papers, editing journals, refereeing research grants, external examining, organising conferences, committee membership and involvement with professional bodies.
- Contribute to, and support, research-led learning and teaching activities.
- Any other duties, commensurate with the grade of the post.

Person Specification

Applicants should provide evidence in their applications that they meet the following criteria. We will use a range of selection methods to measure candidates' abilities in these areas including reviewing your on-line application, seeking references, inviting shortlisted candidates to interview and other forms of assessment action relevant to the post.

Applicants should include in their application a 3000 word (maximum) post-doctoral research fellowship application, indicating clearly its links to SPERI's core research focus and at least one of the five research themes, as well as its potential to generate user and/or policy-maker impact.

A fuller statement of SPERI's research focus is available at: www.sheffield.ac.uk/speri.

	Criteria	Essential	Desirable
	Qualifications and experience		
1.	A relevant PhD (or equivalent experience).	X	
2.	Substantial external recognition and professional standing.		X
3.	Demonstrated ability to secure and sustain research funding.		X
4.	Excellent record of high quality publications for appropriate	X	

	career stage.		
5.	Strong background in international research.		X
	Management skills		
6.	Ability to supervise and motivate postgraduate students.		X
	Communication skills		
7.	Excellent Presentation Skills.	X	
8.	Ability to work effectively with internal and external customers.	X	
	Team working		
9.	Ability to work both within a team and independently.	X	
	Supporting staff performance		
10.	Ability to mentor junior colleagues in developing their research agendas.		X
11.	Ability to undertake staff development reviews of junior colleagues.		X
	Problem solving and decision making		
12.	Ability to plan and prioritise own daily work and forward plan up to five years for some tasks.	X	
	Planning		
13.	Demonstrable ability to conduct long term planning over the length of individual projects in conjunction with colleagues.	X	
	Project management		
14.	Ability to design and deliver modules to a high standard.	X	
15.	Experience of project management.		X
	Personal effectiveness		
16.	Experience of developing network of contacts within the discipline.	X	
17.	Proven ability to prioritise effectively, managing ad hoc tasks as well as longer-term work.	X	
18.	Proven ability to work to deadlines.	X	

Further Information

This post is fixed-term from 1st August 2012 to 31 December 2014.

This post is full-time

This role has been identified as a full-time post, but we are committed to exploring flexible working opportunities with our staff which benefit both the individual and the University. Therefore, we would consider flexible delivery of the role subject to meeting the business needs of the post. See www.sheffield.ac.uk/hr/wellbeing/info/wlb.html for more information.

Terms and conditions of employment: Will be those for Grade 8 staff.

Grade 8: £37,012 - £44,166 per annum with the expectation of annual incremental progression. Potential to progress to £49,689 through sustained exceptional contribution.

More details on salaries, terms and conditions and our wide range of benefits for staff are available at www.sheffield.ac.uk/hr/reward/structures

Closing date: 29 March 2012.

Selection – Next Steps

Following the closing date, you will be informed by email whether or not you have been shortlisted to be invited to participate in the next stage of the selection process. Please note that due to the large number of applications that we receive, it may take up to two working weeks following the closing date before the recruiting department will be able to contact you.

The University of Sheffield is committed to achieving excellence through inclusion

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www.sheffield.ac.uk/hr/equality/support/twoticks/

