



THE POST

College:	College of Humanities
Post:	Postdoctoral Research Fellow (Proleptic)
Reference No:	P57629
Grade:	F
Reporting To:	Professor Laura Salisbury

Job Description

Main purpose of the job:

The University of Exeter is a Russell Group university that combines world-class research with very high levels of student satisfaction. Exeter has over 21,000 students from more than 130 different countries and is in the top 1% of universities in the world with 98% of its research rated as being of international quality. Our research focuses on some of the most fundamental issues facing humankind today.

The post will contribute to extending the research profile of the College of Humanities, particularly in areas related to or complementary with, Medical Humanities. **This fixed term full-time post is available from September 2017 for 4.5 years.**

The successful applicant, who will work as an Engaged Research Fellow, will become part of the core team of the Wellcome-funded collaborative research project '**Waiting Times**' (joint PIs Lisa Baraitser (Birkbeck) and Laura Salisbury (Exeter)). This project, based at Birkbeck and Exeter, brings together an interdisciplinary team to investigate waiting as a cultural and psychosocial concept, and an embodied and historical experience, in order to understand the temporalities of healthcare in the modern period (1860-present). It aims to engage with various publics throughout the research cycle, from the development of research questions to the production and dissemination of research findings.

The successful applicant will undertake research that gathers and analyses contemporary patient experiences of waiting, employing oral history and/or related appropriate qualitative/narrative methods, and subject to the University's requirements for the ethical conduct of research. They will also work alongside the PIs to develop, organise, implement, and evaluate public engagement and engaged research activities related to the wider remit of the project. As well as producing a significant body of new research with accompanying outputs, the role will include developing, organising, facilitating, and convening different collaborative activities, e.g. conferences, workshops and seminars, to foster transdisciplinary exchange. Working with the full team and with stakeholders, the Engaged Research Fellow will also work on online and multi-media initiatives that enhance and disseminate the work of the project, developing systems for managing collaborative research, including searchable databases, bibliographies, summaries of archival materials, resources for relevant secondary material, and ongoing monitoring of functionality.

The successful applicant will be based within Exeter's new Wellcome Trust-funded Centre for the Cultures and Environments of Health, which aims to foster interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research that addresses key healthcare questions. They will also join a growing group of Engaged Research Fellows at Exeter University. They will work closely with the 'Waiting Times' team in Exeter and will also undertake regular trips to Birkbeck, University of London, for full team meetings. They will be managed jointly by the project PIs, although the role is Exeter-based and Laura Salisbury will be *de facto* line-manager. Mentorship in publicly-engaged research will be provided by the Wellcome Trust Centre for the Cultures and Environments of Health.

Main duties and accountabilities:

1. To undertake engaged research as appropriate to the field of study including:
 - Acting as principal investigator as appropriate on research projects;
 - Developing research objectives on the 'Waiting Times' project, and proposals for own or joint research beyond;
 - Conducting individual or collaborative research projects;
 - Identifying sources of funding and contributing to the process of securing funds;
 - Extending, transforming and applying knowledge acquired from scholarship to research and appropriate external activities;
 - Developing ideas for generating income and promoting research area;
 - Developing ideas for application of research outcomes;
 - Deciding on research programmes and methodologies, often in collaboration with colleagues and sometimes subject to the approval of the head of the research programme on fundamental issues.
 - Using initiative and creativity to identify areas for research, developing new research methods and extending the research portfolio;
 - Developing relationships with different publics, e.g. healthcare professionals, patients and service users, carers, etc.
 - Dealing with problems which may affect the achievement of research objectives and deadlines;
 - Analysing and interpreting the results of research and generating original ideas based on outcomes;
 - Using new research techniques and methods;
 - Using creativity to analyse and interpret research data and draw conclusions on the outcomes;
 - Writing up research work for publication;
 - Making presentations at national and international conferences and similar events;
2. To contribute to teaching and to be involved in the assessment of student knowledge including assisting in the supervision of student projects and in the development of student research skills.
3. To act as research team leader including:
 - Mentoring colleagues with less experience and advising on their professional development;
 - Coaching and supporting colleagues in developing their research techniques;
 - Supervising the work of others, for example in research teams or projects;
 - Developing productive working relationships with other members of staff;
 - Co-ordinating the work of colleagues to ensure equitable access to resources and facilities;
 - Dealing with standard problems and help colleagues to resolve their concerns about progress in research.
4. To work in collaboration with colleagues as appropriate to the field of study including:
 - Contributing to collaborative decision making within the research group.
 - Contributing to the production of collaborative research reports and publications.
 - Preparing papers and presenting information on research progress and outcomes to bodies supervising research, e.g. steering groups and funders.
5. To communicate complex information, orally, in writing and electronically to a variety of audiences, including patients and carers.
6. To plan, co-ordinate and implement research programmes including:
 - Managing the use of research resources and ensure that effective use is made of them;
 - Managing research budgets;
 - Helping to plan and implement commercial and consultancy activities;
 - Planning and managing own consultancy assignments.
 - To prepare proposals and applications to external bodies, e.g. for further funding and contractual purposes
 - To contribute to the planning of research projects
7. To use research resources, laboratories and workshops as appropriate and to take responsibility for conducting risk assessments, reducing hazards and for the health and safety of others.

8. To develop, organise and implement public engagement and engaged research activities with different partners, stakeholders and other groups for the project as a whole.
9. To gather data and conduct research evaluating various public engagement and impact activities using agreed frameworks, analysing results and reporting them.
10. To monitor progress towards project milestones, ensuring timely reporting of project deliverables, organising meetings and taking minutes.
11. To assist the PIs and other team members by overseeing and co-ordinating communication and project updates across team members, associates, collaborators and stakeholders
12. To assist the PIs and other team members in communicating with publishers, and ensuring the funding body's open access requirements are met.
13. To develop, organise, facilitate and convene different collaborative activities, e.g. conferences, workshops and seminars, to foster cross-disciplinary exchange.
14. Work with the PIs and other team members to develop online and multi-media initiatives which enhance and disseminate the work of the project.
15. To manage and co-ordinate data collection and develop systems for managing collaborative research including searchable databases, bibliographies, summaries of archival materials, resources for relevant secondary material, ongoing monitoring of functionality, and working with all team members to ensure these remain up-to-date.

This job description summarises the main duties and accountabilities of the post and is not comprehensive: the post-holder may be required to undertake other duties of similar level and responsibility. Please visit the Human Resources website to view the Research Fellow role profiles.

Person Specification

Competency	Essential	Desirable
Attainments/Qualifications	PhD or equivalent qualification/experience in a related field of study.	Be a nationally recognised authority in the subject area.
Skills and Understanding	Possess sufficient specialist knowledge in the discipline to develop/follow research programmes and methodologies. Record of research output in high quality publications.	
Prior Experience	Experience of managing research projects and research teams. Experience of developing, organising and implementing public engagement activities.	Experience of undergraduate /postgraduate teaching and supervision. Experience of acting as principal investigator on research projects.
Behavioural Characteristics	Excellent written and verbal communication skills. Able to communicate complex and conceptual ideas to a range of groups. Evidence of the ability to collaborate actively within the Institution and externally to complete research projects and advance thinking. Able to participate in and develop external networks. Able to balance the pressures of	Able to identify sources of funding, generate income, obtain consultancy projects, or build relationships for future activities.

	research, administrative demands and competing deadlines.	
Circumstances		

Informal Enquiries

Before submitting an application you may wish to discuss the post further by contacting Professor Laura Salisbury, telephone (01392 725480) or email l.a.salisbury@exeter.ac.uk.

Terms & Conditions

Our Terms and Conditions of Employment can be viewed [here](#).

Further Information

Please see our [website](#) for further information on working at the University of Exeter.