# UNIVERSITYOF BIRMINGHAM

### **Further Particulars**

Post title and post number	Lecturer/ Senior Lecturer in Physical Geography
Organisation advertising Description	School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences
Post number	1448
Full-time/Part-time	Full Time
Number of hours / weeks to be worked	100%
Duration of post	Open
Post is open to:	Internal and external candidates
Grade	8/9
Salary	Lecturer: Starting salary is normally in the range £37,382 to £44,607. With potential progression once in post to £50,186 a year.  Senior Lecturer: Starting salary is normally in the range £45,941 to £53,233. With potential progression once in post to £69,412 a year
Additional information	For additional information, contact Professor Ian Fairchild (Head of School) at i.j.fairchild@bham.ac.uk; call +44(0)121 414 4181/4173, Professor Jon Sadler (Deputy Head of School) at j.p.sadler@bham.ac.uk; call +44(0)121 414 5776 or Professor David Hannah (Head of Water Sciences research group) at d.m.hannah@bham.ac.uk; call +44(0)121 414 6925
Terms and conditions	Academic teaching staff (non-clinical)
Closing date	5 May 2013

# **Job summary**

The School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences (GEES) seeks to appoint a Lecturer or Senior Lecturer in Physical Geography. We are looking for an individual who will enhance our internationally leading research profile. The successful candidate will complement and extend our geographical expertise in: *Water Sciences* (hydrology, fluvial geomorphology, hydroecology/ecohydrology, river catchment processes), *Ecology* (freshwater ecology, terrestrial ecology, macroecology, biogeography) and/ or *Meteorology & Climatology* (urban climatology, extremes, infrastructure meteorology, past and future climates).

The appointee will have technical skills to deliver innovative science by using state-of-the-art methods (e.g. numerical modelling, statistical tools, laboratory and/or field experimentation) complementing current research strengths focusing on the bi-directional nature of hydrological and ecological process responses to disturbances and extreme events (e.g. droughts, floods, water temperature, wildfire, habitat fragmentation) and impacts of climate/ weather variability (e.g. urban heat, storms and extremes, freeze events on road/ railways).

Evidence of a strong track record in publishing research of high academic quality and impact, preferably at international level, and securing external research funding is important for a more senior appointment. In addition a commitment to delivering excellent teaching and learning in Physical Geography at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels and communicating to the general public. The successful candidate will undertake administrative tasks (appropriate to their appointment grade) to support delivery of research and teaching within the School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences.

Individuals interested in appointment at Readership level should contact Professor Ian Fairchild (i.j.fairchild@bham.ac.uk) in the first instance.

Female and BME staff are under-represented in the School and so we would particular value applications from such candidates. Professor Eva Valsami-Jones is available to discuss the School's equal opportunities policies (e.valsamijones@bham.ac.uk; 0121 4145537).

### **Main duties**

#### Research

To plan and carry out research, using appropriate methodology and techniques, including:

- Pursuing personal research including developing research ideas and winning support, including financial support;
- Planning, publish and/or executing high quality research;
- Managing research activities, and/or supervising other research staff;
- Presenting findings in high quality publications and conference proceedings;
- Developing novel methodologies and techniques appropriate to the type of research being pursued;
- Supervising and examining PhD students, both within the institution and externally;
- Providing expert advice to staff and students within the discipline;
- Applying knowledge in a way which develops new intellectual understandings.

### **Learning and Teaching**

To use a variety of methods teaching and advising individuals and groups of undergraduates, postgraduates, or CPD students, including:

- Teaching and examining courses at a range of levels;
- Planning and reviewing own teaching approaches and acting as a mentor to encourage others to do the same;
- Developing programme proposals and make substantial contributions to the design of teaching programmes more widely in the Department or School, as appropriate;
- Undertaking the full range of responsibilities in relation to supervision, marking and examining;
- Using appropriate approaches to learning and teaching in their field;

- Disseminating scholarship through suitable media;
- Developing and advising others on learning and teaching tasks and methods;
- Devising & supervising projects, student dissertations and practical work;
- Acting as a personal tutor for academic and pastoral issues.

#### **Management/ Administration**

To contribute to School administration or have a high level of responsibility for others. This may include:

- Participating in the administration/management of research and/or teaching across the Department/School;
- Leading and managing a team to devise and implement a new and/or revised process (e.g. new programme or a recruitment drive);
- Advising on personal development of colleagues and students;
- Making a major contribution to some administrative activities within the University (e.g. appeals panels, working groups);
- Contribute to widening participation, schools outreach, and/or public understanding of the discipline.

#### In addition at Senior Lecturer level:

- Leading major funding bids which develop and sustain research support for the specialist area and advance the reputation of the School and University
- Providing expert advice to colleagues, students and external bodies, e.g., government bodies;
- Leading the advancement of the development of programme curricula;
- Acting as a coach and role model through excellent practice and mentoring of colleagues;
- Promoting and market the work of the School in the subject area both nationally and internationally.

# **Person specification**

- Normally, a higher Degree relevant to the research/teaching area (usually PhD) or equivalent qualifications.
- Extensive research/teaching experience and scholarship within subject specialism, with evidence of ability to attract external funding.
- Proven ability to devise, advise on and manage learning/ research.
- Skills in managing, motivating & mentoring others successfully at all levels.

#### Research

- Experience and achievement reflected in a growing reputation as appropriate for career stage
- Experience and demonstrated success in planning, undertaking and project managing research to deliver high quality results.
- Extensive experience of applying and/or developing and devising successful models, techniques and methods.

Appointment at the Senior Lecturer level will reflect high level peer esteem as evidenced by:

- Excellent reputation in the UK and often internationally, reflected in sustained high quality output, level of innovation, impact on subject and recognition.
- An excellent and sustained record of peer reviewed research publications.
- Successful and sustained supervision of doctoral students to completion.
- Substantial and sustained research income generation, e.g. through research grants, contracts, research consultancy or other external funding.

#### **Teaching**

- Ability to design, deliver, assess and revise teaching programmes.
- Experience and demonstrated success in developing appropriate approaches to learning and teaching and advising colleagues

Appointment at Senior Lecturer level will reflect significant experience as evidenced by:

- Successful and sustained use of a range of appropriate teaching methods and assessment strategies that promote high quality learning, including teaching that is flexible, distinctive and current and stimulates learners' natural curiosity;
- Significant and sustained contribution to one or more of the following: strategic development of new programmes, approaches to learning, the development of learning resources;
- High quality and sustained contributions to fostering excellence in teaching activities either within their host institution or externally
- Mentoring and expert advice which develops the skills of colleagues in teaching and in fostering learning.

### **Management Administration**

- Ability to contribute to School/Departmental management processes
- Ability to assess and organise resources effectively
- Understanding of and ability to contribute to broader management/administration processes

### Scope of the role

Contributing to the whole range of research, teaching and administration [excepting teaching-focused roles which do not have a research requirement]

Research is likely to involve initiating, conducting and disseminating original research.

Teaching is likely to include programme/module review and development as well as delivery and assessment at all levels. The role will typically also invole developing and advising others, including: (a) providing expert advice to staff and students, (b) supervising and examining PhD students, and (c) developing and advising others on learning and teaching tasks and methods.

Management and administration is likely to involve contributions at Departmental and School level, and/or making an important contribution to some managerial/administrative activities within the University (e.g. working groups).

### **Planning and Organising**

- Plan for and set teaching objectives over a number of years;
- Plan and manage own teaching and tutorials as agreed with the Head of School;
- Plan and deliver against own research objectives;
- Organise meetings/conferences/symposia.

In addition at Senior Lecturer level;

- Project manage research activities and supervise other research staff;
- Lead aspects of School/Departmental management processes e.g. course development.

## **Decision making**

- Develop learning and teaching approaches, including approach to mentoring
- Develop programme proposals and decide what contributions to make to the design of teaching programmes
- Develop research ideas
- Decide how to develop and undertake the research
- Decide where and when to present research findings and what publications and conferences to target for this purpose (with guidance, if required)
- Advise, supervise and examine PhD students
- Develop knowledge in specialist area
- Contribute to School/Departmental management processes

### Internal/external relationships

- Communicating complex and conceptual ideas;
- Participate in and develop external networks;
- Provide expert advice to staff and students within the discipline;
- Contribution to recruitment of students:
- Act as external examiner.
- Develop links with external contacts such as other educational bodies
- Provide expert advice internally and externally in specialist area
- Referee and peer review of articles for peer reviewed academic journals and grant applications by research councils and/or other major funding bodies.
- Maintain contact (including membership of) appropriate professional bodies
- Liaise with the relevant external research community via seminars and conferences