



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



School of Government
Professor in Public Policy or Public Administration
(38090)

Role summary

The Department of Public Administration and Policy (DPAP) in the School of Government at the University of Birmingham welcomes applications at Professor level from candidates with research, teaching and impact interests in Public Administration and/or Public Policy.

The DPAP was formed in August 2023 to support the further development of the university's research, teaching and impact around public administration and public policy. It includes the Institute of Local Government Studies (INLOGOV), which researches local democracy and strategic public management and is the top UK provider of postgraduate teaching in public administration, and the Birmingham Leadership Institute (BLI), which researches and develops the leadership required to make progress on pressing contemporary challenges. Building on significant investments in faculty over the last two years, we welcome applications for the Chair role from a broad range of disciplines, including Public Management, Public Administration, Public Policy, Political Science, and other cognate disciplines, as long as there is a clear emphasis, in teaching and research, on Public Administration or Public Policy. Experience working with public sector practitioners and managers would be helpful.

We are seeking to appoint exceptional candidates to contribute to the department's ambition to become a global top 50 department by 2030. We are particularly interested in applications from candidates with expertise in one or more of the School of Government's core areas of strength and future growth – democracy and accountability; conflict, cooperation, and security; applied data science and AI; and public policy. We value passion for interdisciplinary research, methodological pluralism, and inclusive and transformative education.

Successful candidates will have a PhD in a relevant field and be established leaders in their field, evidenced, as appropriate to their career stage, by an outstanding record of publications, grant capture and research leadership.

The appointment is available at Professor (Grade 10) level.

All applications must contain the following supporting documents via the online application system:

1. Cover letter addressing your suitability for the role.
2. Full CV and list of publications, identifying the three most relevant/representative publications.
3. Research statement (maximum 2 pages).
4. Teaching statement (maximum 2 pages).
5. Contact details for three referees.

Candidates shortlisted for interview will also be invited for a campus visit to meet the faculty in the School and department. We will start reviewing applications on 30 November 2023 and invite shortlisted candidates on a rolling basis. If all positions are filled prior to the final closing date of 31 January 2024, we may close the advert, so we encourage early applications.

We particularly welcome applications from female, black, and minority ethnic candidates who are underrepresented in the School and department. We are happy to discuss flexible working.

Informal enquiries

Professor René Lindstädt
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Dr Louise Reardon
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Full/part time: Full time
Duration of post: Permanent
Grade: Professor
Salary: Competitive for an outstanding candidate
Closing Date: 31 January 2024

Please quote job reference 38090 in all enquiries. As part of our senior recruitment process your application may be shared in confidence with two external assessors (these will typically be professors within a related academic field, but external to the University of Birmingham). Therefore, your application may need to be sent outside the EEA. Their views may be sought on your suitability for shortlist and they may also be invited to be involved in the interview process. If you have any queries or concerns, please contact Daljit Smith (College HR Business Partner) on d.smith.9@bham.ac.uk to discuss further.

The School

The School of Government is a diverse and inclusive community committed to education and research that makes a difference to our city, region, country, and the world. Proud to be part of the UK's first civic university, and committed to the values of a democratic society, we believe the study of governance and politics helps us better understand the most pressing local and global challenges and contribute to finding solutions.

The School represents one of the UK's largest concentrations of academics, researchers and students focused on government and governance from the local to the global. Our work spans from the study of local democracy in the Department of Public Administration and Policy (DPAP), incorporating the Institute of Local Government Studies (INLOGOV) and Birmingham Leadership Institute (BLI), to work with international organisations including the EU, NATO, OSCE and numerous aid agencies in the Department of Political Science and International Studies (POLSIS) and the International Development Department (IDD). The School is home to a number of research centres, centres, including the Centre for Elections, Democracy, Accountability and Representation (CEDAR) and the Centre for AI in Government (CAIG).

Each department delivers a distinctive range of academic programmes. POLSIS is home to a significant portfolio of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes offered on campus; IDD has an established

reputation in specialist Masters courses, many also offered through distance learning, as well as two undergraduate programmes; DPAP has developed a range of online and blended learning programmes, a degree apprenticeship designed with local government, and a full-time post graduate programme; the BLI has developed a Level 7 Apprenticeship/MSc in Systems Thinking and Leadership Practitioner. Our MPA programmes span IDD and DPAP and recruit high quality students worldwide.

Research across the School reflects this diversity and breadth with significant grant income having been obtained from research councils, charities, EU funders, and UK and overseas government agencies. Recent funders include the ESRC, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the FCDO, and the Carnegie Corporation. The School's thematic research priorities include research clusters in the Democracy and Accountability; Applied Data Science, AI, and Public Policy; the Politics of Development; and Security, Conflict and Cooperation. We have particular strengths around governance and democracy (particularly around global governance, democratic and social innovation, and comparative national, regional and local politics and administration); and security (particularly the UK-US relationship, the European neighbourhood and former Soviet space, the Middle East and North Africa, and China, Japan and the Asia-Pacific).

The School has strong support, with specialist staff dedicated to student welfare and educational enhancement. The College's wider professional services team provides specialist support in developing research grant applications, impact activities, widening participation and equality, diversity and inclusion. We have been awarded an Athena Swan Bronze award in recognition of our efforts to address gender inequalities and provide leadership for College and University initiatives around decolonising the curriculum, addressing ethnic attainment gaps and LGBTQ+ rights.

The College

The College of Social Sciences comprises the Schools of Social Policy, Government and Education and the Birmingham Business School. It is a vibrant community with over 12,000 students as well more than 500 academic staff and nearly 300 Professional Services staff across a range of disciplines and interdisciplinary fields. Our work impacts all areas of society from business and politics to education, justice, health, and social care. We have a highly diverse international staff body, teach programmes in Dubai, Singapore and online as well as in Birmingham, and we have over 100,000 alumni in more than 185 countries.

As the world faces up to multiple challenges including growing economic and social inequalities, a climate emergency and declining trust in public institutions, our aim is to develop research and education that will make a difference. Our research draws on both quantitative and qualitative approaches to address topics including the economic and social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, access to education for all, the challenges of integrating health and social care including in later life, the youth mental health crisis, growing attacks on democracy and accountability and the path to net zero. In line with the university's civic history and roots, we are particularly strongly engaged regionally. In turn, the quality of our work was validated in the 2021 Research Excellence Framework (REF), with all five of our units of assessment rising significantly in the rankings, and more than half of our impact cases graded 'world leading' (4*).

Our education portfolio is similarly broad and excellent. Our undergraduate programmes in business, accounting, finance, economics, politics, social policy, sociology, criminology, education and international development are highly competitive and have a strong track record in terms of the career destinations of our graduates. We were the first university in the UK to train students in commerce and social workers and we now educate a large number of teachers both locally and globally, including as the UK's largest provider of training to teachers of children with special educational needs. We also offer a range of specialised postgraduate programmes, degree apprenticeships and online programmes, including our highly ranked online MBA and a PhD programme that is a key part of the Midlands Graduate School.

For more details about the College of Social Sciences visit: www.birmingham.ac.uk/university/colleges/socsci

The University

The University of Birmingham was founded on the vision of Joseph Chamberlain in 1900 to provide a university for the people of Birmingham, 'a great school of universal instruction... taking all knowledge in its province'. This philosophy has defined and shaped us as an institution for our city ever since, founded on equality of opportunity for all.

We are proud to continue to find new expressions for these civic roots. The University is now a global institution, with our doors open, welcoming the best to Birmingham, and taking the best of Birmingham to the world. Ranked in the top 100 universities globally, Birmingham is a member of the Russell Group and a founder member of the Universitas 21 global network of research universities. Ten of our alumni and staff have been recognised with Nobel Prizes, and many others are recipients of the most prestigious awards in their fields. We rank highly amongst employers seeking to recruit graduates.



Our heritage as the original 'redbrick' is combined with an ambitious agenda to continue the transformation of the University. In recent years we have significantly increased the number of leading academic colleagues and have undertaken a £1 billion renewal of the campus estate. We have established our own non-selective secondary school and sixth form serving the diverse communities of Birmingham and has a campus in Dubai.

We take our role seriously as an anchor institution for the UK's diverse, youthful, and dynamic second city, and are one of the largest employers in the region. We value our partnerships with local organisations including through our Civic University Agreement signed with Birmingham City Council and the West Midlands Combined Authority. Through The Exchange we now have a city centre base from which to work

with partners. We are currently working with Bruntwood SciTech and NHS partners to develop the Birmingham Health Innovation Campus which will open in 2023.

Birmingham 2030 strengthens our commitment to sustainability as one of the core pillars of our activity. This includes using our research and education to make a major global contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and a headline aim to be net zero carbon for scope 1 and 2 by 2035 and overall by 2045. We are active partners in Birmingham's Tyseley Energy Park developing new technologies to contribute to Birmingham's net zero ambitions.

Birmingham 2030 Strategic Framework

Through our Birmingham 2030 Strategic Framework we have set an aspiration to become a top 50 global institution. We recognise this is a genuinely challenging aim, which will require a vibrant, intellectually exciting, and diverse University community for research and education, as well as working closely with our partners in Birmingham and around the world.

With world-class research and outstanding global education as our core mission, we will strive to increase the volume and quality of our research to make an even greater difference to the world around us. We will be the UK's exemplary civic university, remaining firmly committed to our foundations in the highly diverse communities, people, and economy of the city of Birmingham and the West Midlands.

A link to the Birmingham 2030 Strategic Framework can be found here: www.bham.ac.uk/2030

Student Experience

We have been encouraging independent thinking and providing academic programmes that stretch and challenge for more than a century. Our stunning Edgbaston campus is a distinctive element of the experience we offer to our students.

Centred around the Green Heart, one of the largest open green spaces of any UK University, our 672 acre campus also includes The Vale student accommodation village, set around a lake in its own beautiful parkland. Our research enhances and reinforces our teaching, and we value and reward teaching quality. Our student experience is enriched by a huge range of extra-curricular opportunities from sport and music to volunteering.

A University of Birmingham degree is valued by the country's top employers, founded on our commitment to provide our students with both an outstanding education and the intellectual confidence, knowledge, and skills required to thrive in their careers and make a difference in the world. We are pleased with our high rates of graduate employment, and our students are the most frequently targeted of any university by the country's top employers looking for graduate recruits.

Our student population has increased by over 4,000 since 2009-10, and we now have a total student population of over 25,000 undergraduate and 13,000 postgraduate students. We are a global community, with nearly 11,000 international students studying either at Edgbaston or overseas (at our Dubai campus,

through our partnership with Jinan University, and on distance learning courses). We have 2,500 students undertaking distance learning courses.



Exceptional Research

The University is one of the UK's most successful institutions in terms of research. In the latest Research Excellence Framework, we were placed 13th in the UK in terms of GPA, with the highest rise in position of any Russell Group university. Our areas of research excellence are unusually comprehensive for a UK university, with a submission to 28 of a possible 34 Units of Assessment in the REF2021. The total value of research funding won by the University has grown rapidly to over £200 million per annum for the last two years. We have a portfolio of over 2,600 live projects with an award value to the University of over £900 million.

Our academic community achieves remarkable things. We are proud that the University has contributed to the national and international response to and recovery from Covid-19, drawing on our expertise across our disciplines including virology, immunology, business, economics, law and social sciences.

As a comprehensive university, the breadth of our subject base creates many opportunities for interdisciplinary research to solve global challenges. These are encouraged by our Institute for Global Innovation (IGI), as well as our close collaboration with industry, business, and healthcare.

Our robust industrial partnerships support enterprise and innovation across a number of sectors, working with companies as diverse as Siemens, AstraZeneca and the Royal Shakespeare Company, and drawing on our innovation assets such as the Birmingham Health Innovation Campus and the Manufacturing Technology Centre in Ansty, near Coventry.

We support academics to engage with policy makers, and through the work of University of Birmingham Enterprise, manage the University's extensive technology transfer and academic consultancy business, IP protection and spinout portfolio.

We have been integral to some of the greatest scientific discoveries of recent times, such as the discovery of the Higgs boson particle and the detection of gravitational waves. We enjoy world-class expertise in areas as

diverse as mental health, Shakespeare, history, conflict and security, psychology, water science, air pollution, corpus linguistics, inter-faith understanding, and character education.

The City of Birmingham

The City of Birmingham has undergone a major transformation in the last decade and regularly features as a top place to visit – in fact it was the only place in the UK listed in the Rough Guide's Top 10 places in the world to visit in 2015.

In a recent Sunday Times/Zoopla report, 'Best Places to live in Britain', three areas of Birmingham all made the top 50 best places to live in Britain, with the suburb of Moseley being voted the overall winner.

A city of historical interest and contemporary vision, Birmingham has a rich and diverse community that creates a vibrant, multicultural, and exciting place to live and work.

The city is home to the internationally renowned Birmingham Royal Ballet and one of the world's greatest concert venues: Symphony Hall. The City Museum and Art Gallery houses the world's finest collection of Pre-Raphaelite paintings, alongside a major collection of Old Masters, Modern and Contemporary pictures, while the iconic Bullring is one of the largest dedicated shopping facilities in Europe. Sports and recreation are also well served; the city offers international Test cricket, top-flight football, international championship golf and tennis, and top-class rugby. As a multicultural city, Birmingham is also renowned for the breadth of its cuisine and has more Michelin starred restaurants than any other English city outside London.

Birmingham is within an hour's drive of Stratford-upon-Avon and the Cotswolds. From Birmingham International Airport, more than 50 different airlines operate scheduled services to 100 destinations worldwide. The University has its own dedicated railway station, while 50 million passengers a year use Birmingham New Street Station, and the city will be a major hub for the UK's new high-speed rail network. London is 80 minutes away by shuttle service, with trains every 20 minutes.



Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The promotion of equality, diversity and inclusion is central to the mission and vision of the University of Birmingham. On our founding in 1900, a core commitment was to accept women and people of all religious backgrounds as equal members of the University community. Today, challenging discrimination, addressing

inequalities, and promoting greater understanding continues to be one of the key challenges we face as part of a globalised society.

We are committed to creating and maintaining an inclusive learning and working environment where discrimination is not tolerated, where all members of the University can flourish and reach their full potential; where we engage with and learn from our community and where we affect positive change within the University, our city and wider society. We see this as integral to our mission and vision as a global university. Our Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Scheme 2021 – 2024 sets out our objectives and actions based on the inter-locking themes of:

- **Creating an inclusive environment:** developing a University community where everyone feels welcome, included and empowered to succeed
- **Dismantling barriers:** addressing the structural barriers faced by groups within the University in order to create more equitable outcomes
- **Integrating equality, diversity and inclusion:** issues and impacts are considered and addressed across our activities

We are proud holders of the Advance HE Race Equality Charter and Athena Swan Charter, with a majority of our Schools also holding Athena awards, including the School of Government. We are actively working to increase our proportion of senior female academics and the number of people from minority ethnic groups we employ, and to tackle the degree awarding gap. In November 2020 the University formally adopted the IHRA definition of Anti-Semitism – this is in parallel with our existing expectations that all members of the University community should be treated with dignity and respect and that there is no place on our campus nor within our community for any form of discrimination. We are also members of Stonewall's Workplace Equality Index and Global Champions.