

Ten new academic posts in the College of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Birmingham

Role summary

Research will involve initiating, conducting and disseminating original investigations. Applicants must demonstrate developing international excellence in their research area. Evidence of an emerging track record in publishing work of the highest academic quality and impact is essential. An ability to maximise the impacts from research within relevant communities is a key consideration.

Education includes contributions to development of major teaching programmes or equivalent, including for international students; and enhancement of the student experience and employability.

Specific duties will include delivery of lectures, workshops, field course teaching, dissertation supervision and tutorials, alongside associated assessment and marking.

Management and administration are likely to involve contributions at School and College level, and managerial/leadership activities as deemed appropriate by the Head of School. This may include developing and making contributions to knowledge transfer, enterprise, business engagement, public engagement, widening participation, schools outreach, or similar activities at School level or further within the University.

Successful candidates will demonstrate a commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion and a wish to work to in environments that are inclusive of all groups. They will demonstrate through their research, teaching, and public engagement multiple perspectives as the foundation of a rich learning understanding; they will integrate diverse experiences into instructional methods and research tools; and develop /use pedagogical techniques that meet the needs of diverse populations and interests.

Our world is at a critical stage with growing pressures on our environment, and increasing challenges to our physical and mental well-being. The College of Life and Environmental Sciences at the University of Birmingham is uniquely placed to respond to these issues: we are using our world-leading research to improve our understanding of our natural and managed environment, to improve human physical and mental health, and to develop solutions, through a range of physical, biological, social and increasingly data science approaches. Our work is highly interconnected – and can be summarised as well-being and sustainability.

We are building connections across the breadth of our research and education to address global challenges, and train the leaders and problem-solvers of tomorrow. We have a culture in which discovery and translation research are intertwined - and are used to equip students with the skills and

knowledge to be globally competitive. Placing our research at the core of education enables students to be effective graduates informing knowledge, policy and practice.

We are strengthening our activities in well-being and sustainability through the recruitment of ten assistant / associate professors to join our College. We are interested in applicants who will combine their disciplinary expertise linking with our existing strengths, with interdisciplinary opportunities, and use both disciplinary and interdisciplinary science in teaching, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

Our College comprises four Schools: Biosciences, Geography Earth and Environmental Sciences, Psychology and Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation Sciences. Research strengths include: health through the lifespan from childhood to older age, the role of lifestyle in health and ill-health, infectious disease and diagnostics, brain mechanisms and health, youth mental health, Earth systems, air, water, forests, crops, plants and land health, pollution and mitigation, and the benefits of a good environment (social and physical) to human health.

Our College supports several major cross University research centres with state-of-the-art facilities including the Centre for Human Brain Health, the Institute for Mental Health, the Institute for Microbiology and Infection, the national Biomolecular NMR facility, the Phenome Centre, the Birmingham Institute of Forest Research, Environmental Sciences, the Centre for Urban Wellbeing, and our recently formed Graduate School for Sport and Professional Practice.

The University is committed to excellence in education and our vision is that where we excel in research we excel in education – ensuring we share our discoveries with undergraduate and post graduate students in our campuses at Edgbaston and Dubai, and globally through continuing professional development and our distance learning programmes. Consequently, we are looking for applicants with aptitude and commitment to deliver inspiring teaching and learning, creating a nexus of research – education excellence.

The roles will support our new cross college degrees in Human Sciences and Global Environmental Change & Sustainability, which include contributions from all four schools, in particular supporting students working in this cross school environment and contributing to delivery and assessment of lectures, workshops, field course teaching, dissertation supervision and tutorials.

We aspire to an institutional culture that is inclusive of all individuals regardless of their race, ethnicity, religion, spirituality, gender, gender identity/expression, age, sexual orientation, ability/disability, socioeconomic class, and national origin. The recruitment and selection committee will include these considerations when selecting candidates.

About our Schools

Biosciences

A collaborative, multi-disciplinary approach to research underpins the School's world-leading expertise in microbiology, structural biology, environmental toxicology and the forest environment. Our ambition is to be ranked in the global top 50 for biosciences, delivering leading-edge research, training and education that translates into global impact on society. We play our part in ensuring a sustainable future for our planet by addressing the fundamental biological challenges of our time and the future. Through our core and cross-disciplinary activity and through partnership with industry, end-user practitioners and policy makers we generate biological solutions to major health, welfare, food-provision and environmental problems.

Geography Earth and Environmental Sciences

We advance world-leading research drawing innovatively from the natural and social sciences to understand and address urgent global socio-environmental challenges. Our collaborative ethos and breadth of expertise together drive our emphasis on interdisciplinary education and research examining the processes affecting our planet and its people. Our activity cuts across the natural and anthropogenic, operating at scales from the nano to the global. We work with a diverse range of national and international collaborators encompassing academic, socio-political and industry partners so as to advance our broader agenda.

Psychology

We are one of the largest UK Schools of Psychology, and our scale supports the breadth and depth of our influence in generating and sharing knowledge. We deliver research, teaching and training that influence physical and mental health and wellbeing for individuals and societies. We have an interdisciplinary ethos and extensive national and international collaborations with high-performing research partners and key stakeholders, cultivating research and education pipelines that enhance our discipline and lead to meaningful improvements to national and international policy and practice.

Sport Exercise and Rehabilitation Sciences

We are a world-leading school that performs cutting-edge and translational research in all aspects of Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation. This unique platform allows us to address societal challenges from a multidisciplinary perspective and enrich our curricula with a research intensity that ranks us 12th in global league tables. Our excellence in research and education is reflected across healthy ageing and physical wellbeing and in the recent launch of the Graduate School of Sport and Professional Practice, through which we seek to develop high performing, impactful practitioners in sport, exercise, and rehabilitation. We partner colleagues across our sector and beyond in fundamental and applied research and education, in laboratory and applied settings.

For informal enquiries please contact

Professor Laura Green, Head of College

l.e.green.1@bham.ac.uk

Biosciences

Head of School: Professor Neil Hotchin

n.a.hotchin@bham.ac.uk

Peer contacts:

Dr Estrella Luna Diez - e.lunadiez@bham.ac.uk

Dr Yun Fan - y.fan@bham.ac.uk

Geography, Earth, and Environmental Sciences

Head of School: Professor Jon Oldfield

j.d.oldfield@bham.ac.uk

Peer contacts:

Dr Kirsty Edgar - k.m.edgar@bham.ac.uk

Dr Natasha Cornea - n.l.cornea@bham.ac.uk

Psychology

Head of School: Professor Ed Wilding

e.l.wilding@bham.ac.uk

Peer contacts:

Dr Juliane Kloess - j.a.kloess@bham.ac.uk

Dr Rory Devine - r.t.devine@bham.ac.uk

Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation Sciences

Head of School: Professor Sarah Aldred

s.aldred.1@bham.ac.uk

Peer contacts:

Dr Gareth Wallis - g.a.wallis@bham.ac.uk

Dr Sally Fenton - s.a.m.fenton@bham.ac.uk