Job Description: Assistant Professor (Research and Education)

Post title and post number	Assistant Professor (Research and Education)
College/Budget Centre	
School/Department	Department of Applied Health Sciences
Full time/Part time	Full time
Duration of the Post	Permanent
Salary	
Additional information	
Terms and Conditions	Academic Teaching Staff
Closing Date	
Grade	8

Information for applicants

Academic Development Programme - new Assistant Professors will undertake a 5-year development programme, at the end of which they are expected to be promoted to Associate Professor. The programme consists of a variety of development opportunities and the time to reflect and develop.

Summary of Role

The postholder will be a member of the Biostatistics, Evidence Synthesis, Test Evaluation and prediction Modelling (BESTEAM) team. You will contribute to a range of research, teaching and administration.

Teaching

The postholder will be responsible for the redevelopment and delivery of the statistics training (with an increased focus on experimental medicine and laboratory studies) for PGR students in the College of Medicine and Health. Additionally, the postholder will contribute to statistics teaching delivered by the BESTEAM team. The role also includes delivering on existing CPD courses offered by the team and developing a new course focused on statistical methods for experimental medicine and laboratory studies.

Teaching responsibilities will include a substantial contribution to: (a) the management, development (including programme/module review) and delivery of teaching and assessment; and (b) enhancement of the student experience or employability.

Research

The postholder will be expected to have a developing portfolio of work in the key research areas of the Department of Applied Health Sciences. The role will also include developing methodological expertise in experimental/laboratory medicine, contributing to the design, analysis and critique of studies in this area. The postholder will be expected to work in the key research areas of the BESTEAM team (test evaluation, prognostic modelling, methodology for cluster trials and evidence synthesis and potentially collaborate with the NIHR Birmingham BRC Data, Diagnostics and Decision Tools theme. The successful applicant will be expected to develop their research by applying for research grants (as principal investigator or co-investigator), lead writing and submitting of published papers and other research outputs. Your research will have measurable outcomes reflect in your growing national (and ideally international) reputation.

Administration

Management and administration include contributions at Departmental and School level, and/or making an important contribution to some managerial/leadership activities (e.g. working groups) within the University. This may include developing and making substantial contributions to knowledge transfer, enterprise, business engagement, public engagement, widening participation, schools outreach, or similar activities at Department/School level or further within the University.

Other Activity and Citizenship

The role will typically also involve 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.

In addition you will be expected to demonstrate academic citizenship, developing and maintaining generous, mutually respectful and supportive working relationships with all staff and students, and ensuring the way you carry out your role impacts positively on how others can carry out theirs.

Main Duties / Responsibilities

Education

Using a variety of methods in 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 your own teaching approaches and encouraging others to do the same;
- designing contemporary, inclusive, engaging and academically challenging curriculum content;
- working collaboratively with colleagues to design and deliver teaching, learning and assessment;
- using digital resources/environments effectively to support learning and assessment;
- developing programme proposals and making substantial contributions to the design of teaching programmes more widely;
- where appropriate, undertaking and developing the full range of responsibilities in relation to supervision, marking and examining;
- developing and advising others on learning and teaching tasks and methods;
- developing and making substantial contributions to knowledge transfer, enterprise, business engagement, public engagement activities or similar on own specialism that enhances the student experience or employability and which benefits the College and University;
- devising and supervising projects, student dissertations and practical work.

Research

Planning and carrying out research, including:

- planning and publishing high quality research, including winning financial support;
- project managing research activities, and/or supervising other research staff;
- presenting findings in publications and conference proceedings;
- effectively supervising and mentoring PhD students or early Career Researchers;
- providing expert advice to staff and students within the discipline;
- participating in research-related enabling activities such as adding value to a cross disciplinary network;
- applying knowledge in a way which develops new intellectual understanding;

developing and making substantial contributions to knowledge transfer, and enterprise (including business engagement, public engagement) and similar activity that is of benefit to the College and the University, including ensuring that the impact of your activities is realised fully and the impact is documented.

Management/Administration

Contributing to Departmental/School administration, including:

- contributing to 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);
- managing enterprise, business development, and public engagement activities;
- developing and making substantial contributions to knowledge transfer, enterprise, business engagement, public engagement, widening participation, schools outreach.
- actively manages equality, diversity and inclusion through monitoring and evaluation and actively challenging unacceptable behaviour.

Citizenship

Contributing to an inclusive working environment:

- demonstrating a willingness to be involved in a variety of activities supporting University life (e.g., participation in graduation, Departmental/School committees);
- demonstrating support for colleagues, such as sharing resources, providing advice;
- willingness to volunteer for one-off duties (such as supporting School, Institute, and Departmental projects);
- positively engaging in School strategic initiatives;
- proactive support and involvement in activities specifically contributing to a positive and inclusive community spirit across the School/College/University.

Person Specification

- Normally, a higher degree in biostatistics or a related area (PhD or equivalent qualifications/experience)
- Extensive research and teaching experience in biostatistics and key research areas of the Department of Applied Health Sciences
- Experience of statistical methods for experimental and laboratory medicine, or a desire to engage with these methods in the future
- Proven ability to devise, advise on and manage learning and research

Teaching

- Ability to design, deliver, assess and revise teaching materials and programmes
- Extensive experience and demonstrated success in developing appropriate approaches to learning and teaching, and advising colleagues
- Experience and success in knowledge transfer, enterprise and similar activity that enhances the student experience or employability

Research

- Experience in medical statistics methods for key BESTEAM areas (diagnostic and prognostic test evaluation studies, methodology for cluster trials and systematic reviews).
- Experience and achievement reflected in a growing reputation
- Extensive experience and demonstrated success in planning, undertaking and project managing research to deliver high quality results
- Extensive experience of applying techniques and methods
- Experience and achievement in knowledge transfer, enterprise and similar activity

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
- Experience of championing Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in own work area
- Ability to monitor and evaluate the extent to which equality and diversity legislation, policies, procedures are applied
- Ability to identify issues with the potential to impact on protected groups and take appropriate action