THE POST

College:	**College of Life and Environmental Sciences - Environment and Sustainability Institute** **http://lifesciences.exeter.ac.uk/**
Post:	**Associate Research Fellow**
Reference No:	**P42164**
Grade:	**E**
Reporting To:	**Professor Kevin Gaston**

The above full-time post is available from 1 January 2013 for a fixed term of 24 months in the Environment and Sustainability Institute.

Job Description

Main purpose of the job:

An opportunity has arisen for an Associate Research Fellow to support the work of Professor Kevin Gaston, Director of the Environment and Sustainability Institute at the University of Exeter Cornwall Campus. This position is funded by a consortium grant from the EPSRC. The SECURE project addresses the grand, and globally relevant, challenge of how best to maximise the provision of ecosystem goods and services within urban areas, particularly to local residents, in the face of pressures also to maintain these goods and services in the wider landscape and to meet other competing demands within urban areas. Using NE England as a case study, the successful applicant will quantify and map urban ecosystem service provision from city-to-regional scales, and investigate the potential to increase the future contributions of these services to sustainability.

Main duties and accountabilities:

1. To undertake research as appropriate to the field of study including:

   - Writing up research work for publication;
   - Developing research objectives and proposals for own or joint research;
   - Making presentations at national and international conferences and similar events;
   - Dealing with problems which may affect the achievement of research objectives and deadlines;
   - Analysing and interpreting the results of own research and generating original ideas based on outcomes;
   - Using new research techniques and methods;
   - Using initiative and creativity to identify areas for research, developing new research methods and extending the research portfolio;
   - Using creativity to analyse and interpret research data and draw conclusions on the outcomes.

2. If required, 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 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.

4. To communicate complex information, orally, in writing and electronically.

5. To prepare proposals and applications to external bodies, e.g. for funding and contractual purposes

6. 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 monitor research budgets as appropriate.

9. To engage in continuous professional development and to be responsible for continually updating knowledge and understanding in field of study or specialism and for developing skills.

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 in Ecology, Environmental Science or a closely related discipline.	
Skills and Understanding	Advanced skills in GIS/data handling, spatial analysis, and/or mathematical modelling. Ability to design and perform analyses and prepare results for publication. Sufficient knowledge in the discipline and of research methods and techniques to work within established research programmes.	Evidence of research activity and published research.
Prior Experience	Able to assist in training of graduate students. Experience of conducting risk assessments and understanding of health and safety legislation	Experience of undergraduate teaching
Behavioural Characteristics	Excellent written and verbal communication skills. Able to communicate material of a specialist or highly technical nature. Able to manage research and administrative activities and to balance the competing pressures of research and administrative demands and deadlines. Able to liaise with colleagues and students. Able to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks for the exchange of information and collaboration. Able to identify potential sources of funding.	

	Actively participate as a member of a research team Engage in continuous professional development. Understand equal opportunity issues as they may impact on areas of research content	
Circumstances	Prepared to travel and spend short periods with consortium partners in England.	

Informal Enquiries

Before submitting an application you may wish to discuss the post further by contacting Professor Kevin Gaston, Director of the Environment and Sustainability Institute, email c/o: K.V.Frankland@exeter.ac.uk