



## THE POST

**College:** [College of Engineering, Mathematics and Physical Sciences](#)

**Post:** Graduate Research Assistant

**Reference No:** P63686

**Grade:** E

**HERA:** GRA

**Reporting To:** Prof. Hylke J. Glass

**Responsible For:** COG3 project

### Job Description

#### Main purpose of the job:

The aim of this position is to investigate the possibility of efficient selective leaching and precipitation of heavy metals from primary ores. The research will use state-of-the-art electrochemical techniques to monitor chemical processes in a programme of laboratory experiments with suitably well-characterised ores. The results will inform a comparison with biohydrometallurgical treatment of the same ores. It is expected that outcomes of this research will translate into academic and industrially-relevant outputs.

#### Main duties and accountabilities:

1. To support research activity under the direction of the principal investigator as appropriate to the research project. Responsibilities may include:
  - Undertaking a broad range of research activity according to the requirements of the research project. For example, preparing, setting up, conducting, and recording the outcome of experiments, interpreting experimental data, analysing and comparing data from various sources, considering practical implications of research findings;
  - Maintaining databases, keeping accurate written and computerised records and ensuring data is stored securely and managed in accordance with the Data Protection Act;
  - Conducting literature and database searches as required;
  - Writing up the results of own research;
  - Contributing to the production of research reports and publications;
  - Presenting information on research progress and outcomes to bodies supervising research, e.g. steering groups, sponsors or members of research groups;
  - Assisting in the preparation of papers or reports for steering groups and other bodies;
  - Providing administrative support to the principal investigator and other project researchers as required;
  - Analysing and interpreting the results of own research and generating original ideas based on outcomes;
  - Contributing to the planning of future research projects.
2. To support teaching activity by assisting in the supervision of student projects and providing limited supervision or instruction to classes, if required.
3. To liaise with members of the research team and other colleagues as appropriate to the research project.

4. To establish internal and external contacts to develop knowledge and understanding and form networks for future collaboration.
5. To plan own day-to-day research activity within the framework of the agreed programme of research and co-ordinate own work with that of others in the group to avoid conflict or duplication of effort.
6. To use research resources, laboratories and workshops as appropriate and to adhere to safety procedures as appropriate. This may include wearing personal protective equipment, conducting risk assessments, reducing hazards and being responsible for the health and safety of others.
7. To engage in continuous professional development and to be responsible for continually updating own knowledge and understanding in field of study or specialism and for developing own 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.

### **Person Specification**

| <b>Competency</b>           | <b>Essential</b>  | <b>Desirable</b>  |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Attainments/Qualifications  | Educated to first degree level in a chemistry, chemical engineering, or a related field of study or equivalent experience.  | Specialism in electrochemistry.   |
| Skills and Understanding    | Possess sufficient breadth or depth of knowledge in chemical and electrochemical research methods and techniques to work within own area.   | Fundamental understanding of electrochemistry and use of electrochemical methods. |
| Prior Experience            | Understanding of health and safety legislation.   |   |
| Behavioural Characteristics | <p>Ability to maintain accurate records.</p> <p>Ability to organise and prioritise own research work within the project framework.</p> <p>Good written and verbal communication skills.</p> <p>Computer literate.</p> <p>Good analytical skills.</p> <p>Able to liaise with colleagues and students.</p> <p>Able to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks for the exchange of information and collaboration.</p> <p>Actively participate as a member of a research team.</p> <p>Engage in continuous professional development.</p> <p>Understand equal opportunity issues as they may impact on areas of research content.</p> |   |
| Circumstances               | Willing to work flexibly to achieve project demands.  |   |

### **Terms & Conditions**

Our Terms and Conditions of Employment can be viewed [here](#).

### **Further Information**

Please see our [website](#) for further information on working at the University of Exeter.