

THE POST

College: College of Medicine & Health

Post: Postdoctoral Research Fellow (Human movement and ageing)

Reference No: P72104

Grade: F

HERA: RFEL

Reporting To: Professor Sallie Lamb

Responsible For: TBC

The above full-time post is available for three years from May 2020 in the College of Medicine and Health.

Job Description

Main purpose of the job:

To develop and undertake a programme of research to investigate balance and movement mechanisms in older people in real life settings and in two new state of the art facilities at the University of Exeter. The VSimulator virtual reality facility (https://vsimulators.co.uk/) was funded by a £4.8 million EPSRC grant to enable fundamental and applied research into human interactions in and with moving structures (e.g., buses, trains, swaying surfaces and buildings). The facility, based at the Exeter Science Park (https://www.exetersciencepark.co.uk/), comprises a 4m by 4m fully-instrumented multidirectional (6 DOF) motion platform, motion tracking and immersive virtual reality. We anticipate that the work carried out by the successful applicant will also involve the use of a separate Motek M-Gait system, based in the School of Sport and Health Sciences. You will work in a multi-disciplinary team focused on improving the health and functioning of older people

Main duties and accountabilities:

- 1. To undertake research as appropriate to the field of study. The responsibilities may include all or some of the following:
 - Acting as principal investigator on research projects;
 - Developing research objectives, projects and proposals;
 - Conducting individual or collaborative research projects;
 - Identifying sources of funding and contributing to the process of securing funds;
 - Extending, transforming and applying knowledge acquired from scholarship to research and appropriate external activities;
 - Writing or contributing to publications or disseminating research findings using media appropriate to the discipline;
 - Making presentations at conferences or exhibiting work in other appropriate events;
 - Assessing, interpreting and evaluating outcomes of research;
 - Developing new concepts and ideas to extend intellectual understanding:
 - Resolving problems of meeting research objectives and deadlines;
 - Developing ideas for generating income and promoting research area;
 - Developing ideas for application of research outcomes:
 - Deciding on /following research programmes and methodologies, often in collaboration with colleagues and subject to the approval of the head of the research programme on fundamental issues.

- 2. To contribute to teaching and learning programmes in the School and to supervise postgraduate research students.
- 3. To act as research team leader including:
 - Mentoring colleagues with less experience and advising on their professional development;
 - Coaching and supporting colleagues in developing their research techniques;
 - Supervising the work of others, for example in research teams or projects;
 - Developing productive working relationships with other members of staff;
 - Co-ordinating the work of colleagues to ensure equitable access to resources and facilities;
 - Dealing with standard problems and help colleagues to resolve their concerns about progress in research.
- 4. To routinely communicate complex and conceptual ideas to those with limited knowledge as well as to peers using high level skills and a range of media and to present the results of scientific research to sponsors and at conferences.
- 5. As determined by the nature of the project and at the direction of the PI, to plan, co-ordinate and implement research programme activity including:
 - Managing the use of research resources and ensuring that effective use is made of them;
 - Monitoring and reporting on the use of research budgets;
 - Helping to plan and implement commercial and consultancy activities;
 - Where appropriate, to plan and manage own consultancy assignments.

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 qualification/experience in analysis of human movement	Be a nationally recognised authority in the subject area.
Skills and Understanding	Possess sufficient specialist knowledge in the discipline to develop/follow research programmes and methodologies. Record of research output in high quality publications. Experience of visual3D, Matlab or similar	Creating VR environments in Unity3D
Prior Experience	Experience of managing research projects.	Experience of undergraduate /postgraduate teaching and supervision. Experience of acting as principal investigator on research projects. Experience of working with clinical populations of older people
Behavioural Characteristics	Excellent written and verbal communication skills. Able to communicate complex and conceptual ideas to a range of groups. Evidence of the ability to collaborate actively within the Institution and externally to complete research projects and advance thinking. Able to participate in and develop	Able to identify sources of funding, generate income, or build relationships for future activities.

	external networks. Able to balance the pressures of research, administrative demands and competing deadlines. An understanding of the importance of equality and diversity within an organisation and a commitment to helping create an inclusive culture.	
Circumstances		

Informal Enquiries

Before submitting an application you may wish to discuss the post further by contacting Professor Sallie Lamb, Mireillie Gillings Professor of Health Innovation (01392 725585) or e-mail s.e.lamb@exeter.ac.uk or Dr Will Young, Senior Lecturer in Rehabilitation Psychology, telephone (01392 724747) or email w.young@exeter.ac.uk.

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.