

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Exercise Promotion via Charity Fundraising

Job Ref: REQ171012

As part of the University's ongoing commitment to redeployment, please note that this vacancy may be withdrawn at any stage of the recruitment process if a suitable redeployee is identified.

Internationally recognised for its contribution to the study of sport, exercise and health, the School has wide-ranging expertise, encompassing such diverse areas as biomechanics, medicine, molecular and cellular biology, nutrition, pedagogy, psychology, physiology, sociology, economics and sport management.

The School has an active and ambitious plan to grow capacity and influence through developments as part of the National Centre for Sport and Exercise Medicine, Loughborough in London, and StemLab.

The School is extremely proud to hold an Athena Swan Silver Award, recognising the commitment and work of the School in addressing issues of equality in Science.

Research

Research within the School is characterised by excellence and breadth, and its quality was recognised by the 2014 Research Excellence Framework audit. A broad range of social and natural sciences contribute to the School's research activity which is organised within three overlapping themes:

- **Sport performance**, which aims to understand and enhance sport and exercise performance across the ability range by investigating the factors influencing, and methods for improving, human performance in sport and exercise;
- **Lifestyle for health and well-being**, which aims to improve human health and wellbeing throughout the lifespan by considering the social, behavioural and biological determinants and consequences of human lifestyles with specific emphases on physical activity, nutrition and chronic disease; and
- **Participation in sport and exercise**, which aims to analyse the sociological, economic, psychological, political, organisational and behavioural factors which inhibit and facilitate community participation in sport and exercise.

The School's research themes articulate in particular with the Sport and Exercise Beacon and the Health and Wellbeing Global Challenge which are key elements of the University's CALIBRE (Collective Ambition at Loughborough for Building Research Excellence) framework.

Further information about the School's research themes can be found at:

<http://www.lboro.ac.uk/departments/ssehs/research/> and about the University's CALIBRE framework at: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/research/calibre/>

Job Description

Project:

This study is funded by Cancer Research UK to develop intervention strategies that can be implemented by charities delivering physically active fundraising events, to support their participants in becoming regularly active. The six-step intervention mapping protocol will be followed to ensure a needs-led and evidence-based approach. This will involve conducting a needs assessment, identifying intended behavioural outcomes, and developing intervention components and materials. These will be inexpensive and flexible approaches that can be easily adapted to different types of event, location, or population. Data collection will involve interviews and/or focus groups with stakeholders and participants of active charity events, and these will contribute to the early steps of the development process. Subsequent steps relate to planning for intervention adoption, implementation, sustainability, and evaluation. The study is conducted in collaboration with colleagues from the University of Oxford and University of Southampton.

Job Family & Grade: Specialist & Supporting Academic (Research) Grade 6

Job Purpose: To co-ordinate the project in accordance with the above requirements under the supervision of the principal investigator.

Job Duties:

- To co-ordinate all aspects of the project in accordance with the study's principal- and co-investigators.
- To organise meetings of the project steering group.
- To perform literature searches and review existing evidence.
- To plan and conduct interviews and/or focus groups with stakeholders and event participants.
- To undertake qualitative analyses of interview and/or focus group data.
- To synthesise primary and secondary data in line with the intervention mapping protocol.
- To develop project and intervention materials.
- To train and supervise student researchers assisting with data collection.
- To report research progress and discuss project developments with the principal- and co-investigators and project steering group.
- To write up the research findings in a report to funders and a peer-reviewed journal manuscript.
- To undertake other duties as may be reasonably requested and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.

Points to Note:

The purpose of this job description is to indicate the general level of duties and responsibility of the post. The detailed duties may vary from time to time without changing the general character or level of responsibility entailed.

Special Conditions:

The post-holder may be required to travel to different parts of the country for meetings or to support data collection; expenses will be covered by the project.

All staff have a statutory responsibility to take reasonable care of themselves, others and the environment and to prevent harm by their acts or omissions. All staff are therefore required to adhere to the University's Health, Safety and Environmental Policy & Procedures.

All staff should hold a duty and commitment to observing the University's Equality & Diversity policy and procedures at all times. Duties must be carried out in accordance with relevant Equality & Diversity legislation and University policies/procedures.

Successful completion of probation will be dependent on attendance at the University's mandatory courses which include Respecting Diversity and, where appropriate, Recruitment and Selection.

Organisational Responsibility:

Reports to Dr Clare Stevinson, Senior Lecturer in Physical Activity and Health

Person Specification

Your application will be reviewed against the essential and desirable criteria listed below. Applicants are strongly advised to explicitly state and evidence how they meet each of the essential (and desirable) criteria in their application. Stages of assessment are as follows:

- 1 – Application
- 2 – Test/Assessment Centre/Presentation
- 3 – Interview

ESSENTIAL

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Experience in research relating to physical activity behaviour	1,3
	Experience of systematic literature searching	1,3
	Experience of conducting interviews and/or focus groups	1,3
Skills and abilities	Ability to search electronic literature databases	1,3
	Ability to interview participants of varying demographic backgrounds	1,3
	Ability to analyse qualitative data	1,3
	Ability to organise, attend and contribute to relevant meetings	1,3
Training	Willingness to undertake appropriate further training and to adopt new procedures as and when required	1,3
Qualifications	PhD in behavioural science, sports science, psychology, sociology, public health, or a related subject	1
Other	Willingness to travel to other locations in the country, if required.	1,3

DESIRABLE

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Experience in implementing and evaluating behavioural interventions	1,3
	Experience of data collection in outdoor community settings	1,3
	Experience of following the intervention mapping protocol	1,3
	Experience in communicating and collaborating with academic colleagues from multiple institutions	1,3
Skills and abilities	Ability to write up research at a level suitable for publication in academic journals	1,3

Conditions of Service

This part-time (0.4fte, 14.8 hours per week) post is offered on a fixed-term contract for 10 months, within the Specialist and Supporting Academic job family, Grade 6, £29,799 - £32,548 per annum, subject to annual pay award and at a starting salary to be confirmed on offer of appointment.

The appointment will be subject to the University's normal Terms and Conditions of Employment for Academic and Related staff/Operational and Administrative staff, details of which can be found [here](#).

The University is committed to enabling staff to maintain a healthy work-home balance and has a number of family-friendly policies which are available at <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/a-z/family-leave-policy-and-procedure---page.html>.

We also offer an on-campus nursery with subsidised places, subsidised places at local holiday clubs and a childcare voucher scheme (further details are available at: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/a-z/childcare-information---page.html>

In addition, the University is supportive, wherever possible, of flexible working arrangements. We also strive to create a culture that supports equality and celebrates diversity throughout the campus. The University holds a Bronze Athena SWAN award which recognises the importance of support for women at all stages of their academic career. For further information on Athena SWAN see <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/athena-swan/>

Informal Enquiries

Informal enquiries should be made to Dr Clare Stevinson, Senior Lecturer in Physical Activity and Health, by email to C.D.Stevinson@lboro.ac.uk, or by telephone on 01509 223255

Applications

The closing date for receipt of applications is Tuesday 31st October 2017.