

## SPORT AND PERFORMANCE PSYCHOLOGY LEAD

Job Ref: REQ17216

**As part of the University's ongoing commitment to redeployment, please note that this vacancy may be withdrawn at any stage of the recruitment process if a suitable redeployee is identified.**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 with four of the University's six Research Challenges, most closely with the 'Health and Wellbeing' challenge, but also significantly with 'Communication, Culture and Citizenship', 'Enabling Technologies', and 'Secure and Resilient Societies'.

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 Research Challenges at: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/research/challenges/>

### Job Description

**Job Family & Grade:** Specialist & Supporting Academic Grade 7

**Job Purpose:** This is a new, specialist role designed to bridge the gap between academic learning and applied service delivery. The postholder will be responsible for developing, leading and delivering a high quality support service to Loughborough University student athletes, combined with teaching, assessment and student development on the BSc and MSc Sports and Exercise Psychology programmes.

**Job Duties:**

### **Teaching**

- To contribute to teaching and assessment, primarily on the BSc and MSc Sport and Exercise Psychology, and Sport and Exercise Science Programmes, developing and delivering content on relevant vocational modules relating to the application of sport psychology and the development of professional skills.
- To supervise BSc and MSc project students in relevant areas of sport and exercise psychology.
- To develop an extra-curricular sport psychology skill development and work experience scheme for BSc and MSc Sport and Exercise Psychology students who wish to develop vocational skills alongside their taught programme.
- To promote the use of a range of teaching, learning and assessment methods.
- To contribute disciplinary expertise and advise colleagues on applied/practical innovations, as required, in the Psychology discipline group and serve as a full member of the group.

### **Sport Psychology Services**

- To work as an integral part of the Sport Development Centre's (SDC) Sport Science and Medicine Support team contributing to a vision and culture for Loughborough Sport that supports excellence
- To provide psychological support to designated elite student athletes, teams and coaches as agreed with the Head of Sports Science and Medicine
- To drive the co-ordination and management of psychological support services to elite student athletes, teams, coaches and support staff on LU campus, assisting individuals and the team to work effectively through one to one and group sessions
- To identify and facilitate appropriate communication methods, (including workshops), to inform and educate athletes, coaches and support staff in the effective use of psychological support and mental training
- To recruit, organise and supervise trainee sport psychology practitioners to support the delivery of psychological services on campus
- To be responsible for cross campus links between SSEHS and SDC and enhance student-athletes' exposure to psychology, and to high quality psychological services
- To contribute to the SSEHS enterprise and consultancy strategy by developing education and support offers (eg. supervision, short courses, workshops, training) for external clients as part of the LU sport psychology service.

### **Other**

- To work within the rules of the Professional Code of Conduct, standards and guidelines of the University and the post holder's relevant qualifying body (e.g., BPS, HCPC, BASES, AASP).
- To engage in relevant professional development and training within the University in areas which are consistent with the needs and aspirations of the post
- To undertake such 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:**

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 the Dean of School for Sport, Exercise & Health Sciences, and Director of Sport in SDC

## 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 CRITERIA

Area	Criteria	Stage
<b>Experience</b>	Experience of teaching and assessment in sport and exercise psychology at Further and/or Higher Education level	1,3
	Experience of undergraduate or postgraduate project supervision and assessment in sport and exercise psychology	1,3
	Substantial post-qualification/registration (ie. BPS; BASES) experience in the provision of psychological support to athletes and coaches to improve performance. This will include experience working with national or professional teams/athletes	1,3
	A proven track record of working within a multi-disciplinary team in the delivery of psychological support services to high performance sport	1,3
<b>Skills and abilities</b>	The ability to develop, co-ordinate and contribute to the practical elements of modules in sport psychology at BSc and MSc level	1,3
	The knowledge and ability to apply current research and theoretical principles in sport psychology to one's teaching	1,3
	Demonstrated ability to analyse different sports in relation to their psychological needs; to develop, implement and evaluate psychological support and support programmes for individual athletes within these sports	1,3
	Competence in IT and data management	1,3
	Excellent interpersonal and communication skills	1,3
	The ability to work independently and on own initiative as well as part of a team	1,3
	Excellent organisational and time management skills	1,3
	Skill in fostering productive relationships with high performance staff within national governing bodies, professional sports or other related institutions	1,3
	Ability to balance various responsibilities	1,3
<b>Training</b>	A willingness to undertake professional development as appropriate and to adopt new procedures as and when required	3
<b>Qualifications</b>	A good undergraduate degree (BSc) in sport science or psychology	1,3
	A good MSc in a related area (eg. sport and exercise psychology)	1,3
	A PhD (or equivalent) in Sport Psychology	1,3
	Registered with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) or international equivalent as a sport and exercise psychologist	
	A good undergraduate degree (BSc) in sport science or psychology	1,3
<b>Other</b>	A commitment to observing the University's Equal Opportunities policy at all times including the University policy on anti-doping	3
	Availability to deliver outside of normal working hours on a regular basis	3

## DESIRABLE CRITERIA

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Experience of undergraduate and postgraduate project supervision and assessment	1,3
	Experience of supervision and mentoring of neophyte sport psychology practitioners	1,3
	Experience of mentoring and/or delivering personal development / life skills (or equivalent) programmes	1,3
Skills and abilities	The ability to contribute to undergraduate teaching in one or more areas of sport and exercise sciences, including the development of professional skills in students	1,3
Qualifications	A recognised teaching qualification; Fellowship of HEA	1,3
	BASES High Performance Sport Accreditation	1,3
	Accredited supervisor for sport and exercise psychologists/scientists (RAPPs register; BASES accredited)	1,3
	Successful completion of British Psychology Society QSEP (stage 2) or BASES Sport and Exercise Science Support Accreditation (or equivalent, eg. AASP certification; APA license)	1,3

## Conditions of Service

This position is offered on a full-time, open-ended contract. The salary will be within the *Specialist & Supporting Academic* Job Family, Grade 7 (£39,324 - £46,924 per annum); 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 Professor Chris Harwood via email to [C.G.Harwood@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:C.G.Harwood@lboro.ac.uk) or telephone +44(0)1509 226342

## Applications

The closing date for receipt of applications: **18 April 2017**.  
Interviews will be held on: **3 May 2017**.