

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (Corruption in Sport)

Job Ref: REQ17949

As part of the University's ongoing commitment to redeployment, please note that this vacancy may be withdrawn at any stage of the recruitment process if a suitable redeployee is identified.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

Titled: 'Does corruption in sport corrode social capital?', this project aims to answer this question, by using the recent scandal of alleged cover up of child abuse by UK football coaches as an instrumental case study, and investigating the impact it has had on participation in and spectatorship of football, perceptions of the sport, and social capital. The project is funded by the British Academy. Data for this study will be collected initially through both focus groups, in order for in-depth discussions to be conducted on sport corruption and its effects. The findings of these focus groups will help to inform the design of a questionnaire that will also incorporate noted determinants of social capital in the literature, and measures of social capital suggested by the Office of National Statistics. The final questionnaire will be then administered targeting a wide audience of English nationals, in order for a broad catchment to be achieved, offering rich data. The post-holder will be involved in both the data collection and the data analysis phase, and thus the job requires expert knowledge in both areas of research methods (qualitative focus group and quantitative questionnaire data collection and analysis), as well as a sound knowledge of the particular academic

areas under study (corruption, social capital, sport / football). The post-holder will also be required to contribute to the formulation and submission of research publications, as well as help manage and direct this complex and challenging project as opportunities allow.

Job Family & Grade: Specialist & Supporting Academic Grade 6

Job Purpose: To jointly manage this funded project in accordance with the above requirements.

Job Duties:

- To jointly manage all aspects of this project in accordance with the study's principal- and co-investigators
- To work with the principal and co-investigators to arrange participant recruitment and the scheduling of the quantitative and qualitative data collection
- To conduct the focus groups and administer the questionnaires to the agreed sample.
- To conduct data analysis on both the qualitative and quantitative data collected.
- To report research progress and discuss project issues with the principal and co-investigators.
- To write-up the research findings from this work in peer-reviewed journals and funder reports
- 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:

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.

Organisational Responsibility:

Reports to Dr Argyro Elisavet Manoli, Lecturer in Sports Marketing and Communications

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 in sport or general management	1,3
	Experience of recruiting adult participants	1,3
	Experience of questionnaire design and use for data collection	1,3
	Experience of conducting focus groups and/or interviews	1,3
	Experience of preparing research for publication in scientific journals	1,3
Skills and abilities	Ability to effectively communicate with individuals to aid recruitment for research projects	1,3
	Ability to write research at a level suitable for publication in academic journals	1,3
	Ability to keep up to date with knowledge and understanding in the fields of corruption, sport / football and social capital	1,3
	Ability to use statistical programs such as SPSS	1,3
	Ability to conduct thematic analysis either manually or through programs such as NVIVO	1,3
	To organise, attend and contribute to relevant meetings	1,3
	Oral communication skills sufficient to be able to address audiences clearly and effectively	1,3
	Excellent organisational and project management skills	1,3
	Ability to work as part of a team and to collaborate with others	1,3
Training	Willingness to undertake appropriate further training and to adopt new procedures as and when required	1,3
Qualifications	Masters in sport or general management	1
	PhD (or near completion) in a relevant area	1

DESIRABLE

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Experience in conducting research in corruption and sport	1,3
	Experience in conducting research in social capital	1,3
	Experience in engaging, communicating and collaborating with academic colleagues	1,3
	Experience in managing funded research projects	1,3
Qualifications	PhD in sport or general management	1

Conditions of Service

This position is part-time (0.19fte which is 7 hours per week) and is offered on a fixed-term contract to 31st August 2018, within the Specialist and Supporting Academic job family, Grade 6 (£29,799 - £34,520 per annum, pro rata); subject to annual pay award and at a starting salary to be agreed on offer of appointment. An early start date is required.

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 Argyro Elisavet Manoli, Lecturer in Sports Marketing and Communications, by email to E.A.Manoli@lboro.ac.uk or by telephone on 01509 228453

Applications

The closing date for receipt of applications is **Thursday 19th October 2017**.