

## RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (Exercise Rehabilitation Sciences)

**Job Ref: REQ180563**

**As part of the University's ongoing commitment to redeployment, please note that this vacancy may be withdrawn at any stage of the recruitment process if a suitable redeployee is identified.**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** since 2013, recognising the commitment and work of the School in addressing gender inequalities in Science and to improving career progress for female academics. The School is committed to ensuring that female students and staff are able to achieve their full potential; and provides a flexible and open working culture to enable staff to maintain a work-life balance.

We support our Athena SWAN initiatives by investing in:

- Bespoke leadership programmes to encourage and build confidence in women to take leadership roles.
- Working lunches where needed to enable meetings to be held between 10am and 4pm (as per our Silver Action Plan).
- Monthly coffee mornings which provide opportunities for networking and developing a sense of community within the School.
- Extra Mile award which recognises the above and beyond contributions of staff from all job families and research students.
- We also welcome applications from those looking to work part-time.

Further information about Athena SWAN and the School's commitment to uphold the Silver Award can be found at: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/departments/ssehs/about/athena-swan/>

### **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

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

### Job Purpose:

To work with members of the Peter Harrison Centre for Disability Sport (PHC) on topics related to the physiological, metabolic and immune responses in persons with disability that may inform interventions at an exercise rehabilitation level. To engage in on-going research activities with the aim to improve health and performance in populations with disability. This includes activities such as primary data collection, analysis, write up, publication and dissemination to both research outlets as well as to end-users.

### Job Duties:

- Investigate the physiological and immunological exercise responses of persons with disabilities during different exercise regimes and modalities.
- Explore effects of temperature on glycaemic control and immune responses.
- Assist in other related research projects as required and consultancy Sport Science support to Paralympic sports.
- Assist in developing new lines of research and write research proposals, submit at least one grant proposal within the 12-month period.
- Contribute ideas for new research and enterprise directions. This may involve establishing a network within national or international rehabilitation centres. For example, translate research outcomes to end-users via the PHC website, newsletters, social media or specifically designed outlets. Contribute to project promotion and public engagement events.
- Assist with laboratory operations and laboratory management and where necessary support research projects at UG and PG level
- Write up research papers in high quality academic journals.
- Present research findings and educational resources at seminars and conferences and other forums as required.
- Engage in training programmes in the University (or elsewhere) that are consistent with the needs and aspirations of the project and those of the Department.
- Undertake other duties as may be reasonably requested and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.

### Teaching:

There are no specific teaching responsibilities for this position other than the involvement in project supervision.

### 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 Dr Christof Leicht, Leader of the Health and Wellbeing strand of the Peter Harrison Centre for Disability Sport (PHC), and Professor Vicky Tolfrey, Director of the PHC.

## 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
<b>Experience</b>	Background in a sport and exercise science related area	1
	An understanding of the physiological, immunological and thermoregulatory exercise responses of persons with disabilities, and more specifically, with a spinal cord injury	1,3
	A physiological understanding of testing protocols for disabled populations	1,3
	Authoring original work for academic journal papers, conference papers and technical reports	1,3
<b>Skills and abilities</b>	Wet lab techniques, such as ELISA and in vitro work	1,3
	Physiological exercise testing in individuals with disability	1,3
	Excellent written and oral communication skills	1,3
	Self-motivated with ability to meet deadlines	1,3
	Excellent interpersonal and organisational skills	1,3
	Working knowledge of software packages (SPSS, Mendeley, Office package)	3
	Ability to write project reports and make presentations to lay, industrial, and academic research groups	1,3
	Knowledge of relevant Health & Safety issues	3
<b>Training</b>	Demonstrate evidence of having undertaken further training	1,3
	Phlebotomist trained	1,3
<b>Qualifications</b>	PhD (or near completion) in a relevant subject	1
<b>Other</b>	Commitment to observing the University's Equal Opportunities policy at all times	3

### DESIRABLE

Area	Criteria	Stage
<b>Experience</b>	First-hand experience in physiological and immunological exercise responses of persons with disabilities, and more specifically, with a spinal cord injury	1,3
	Developing proposals for funding from external agencies	1,3
	Working in a high quality academic research environment	1,3
	Experience of teaching and/or supervision of students in relevant areas	1,3
<b>Skills and abilities</b>	Competent in flow cytometric analyses	1,3
	Competent in phlebotomy and cannulation	1,3
<b>Qualifications</b>	Teaching qualification	1
	First Aid certificate	1
<b>Other</b>	Links with international research partners	1,3

## Conditions of Service

This full-time post is offered on a fixed-term contract for 12-months commencing 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019, within the *Specialist & Supporting Academic (Research)* job family, Grade 6 (starting salary £29,799 per annum).

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 strive to create a culture that supports equality and celebrates diversity throughout the campus. The University holds a Silver 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 Christof Leicht or Professor Vicky Tolfrey via email to [c.a.leicht@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:c.a.leicht@lboro.ac.uk) or [v.l.tolfrey@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:v.l.tolfrey@lboro.ac.uk), or by telephone on 01509 226306.

## Application & Interview

The closing date for receipt of applications is **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018**. Interviews will be held during the week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> August 2018.