

## **RESEARCH ASSISTANT IN TRANSPORT SAFETY RESEARCH CENTRE** *Safety implications of Fatigue and Sleepiness*

**Full time or part time Fixed term up to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

**Job Ref: REQ231403**

**As part of the University's ongoing commitment to redeployment, please note that this vacancy may be withdrawn at any stage of the recruitment process if a suitable redeployee is identified.**

The School of Design and Creative Arts (SDCA) has a strong, internationally recognised research community. We discover and develop new concepts and ideas in areas related to design, ergonomics, safety and human factors. Annually we attract over £4 million funding from external investors and businesses. This funding helps us undertake a number of research projects which aim to have a real impact on the world around us.

### **Project Description**

#### **Transport Safety Research Centre (TSRC)**

Loughborough University has established an international reputation for excellence in the field of Transport and Occupational Safety including in-depth investigations of road traffic accidents on behalf of government departments, the motor industry and other research organisations. The TSRC is a University Centre of Excellence with a key focus in understanding real-world aspect of transport operators and understanding the impact of human performance on safety. More information about the work of the TSRC can be found [here](#).

This position involved working on two projects in the area of Fatigue and Sleepiness. The first project, has been commissioned to undertake investigations into worker experience of fatigue and sleepiness in maritime industry. The work will examine the contributing factors to worker fatigue/sleepiness and how this is managed at work.

The second project is funded by a Road Safety Trust grant to investigate the potential benefits of a planned nap (short sleep) for reducing the negative impact of fatigue/sleepiness on driving.

These three projects will both apply a mixed methods approach using qualitative and quantitative techniques such as desk based reviews, survey, interviews and objective data collection from specifically recruited participants. There are overlapping themes concerning research in the area of human factors in fatigue, sleepiness. Workload will be divided between the projects over the period.

### **Job Description**

**Job Grade: Specialist and Supporting Grade 5**

#### **Job Purpose**

You will assist in the data collection, analysis and subsequent reporting for both projects. You will assist Researchers currently working on the projects to undertake tasks related to: literature/policy document review, interviews, on-line survey, laboratory and field data collection. Qualitative and quantitative research methods will be used.

As an assistant to the Principal Investigator you will be based at Loughborough University helping to ensure the projects meet their targets in the period available and that effective day to day liaison takes place with other project partners. One project requires data collection in London, port towns and potentially at sea in UK waters, the successful candidate will be required to travel for this data collection strategic points in the project. Applications may be considered at full or part time, multiple applicants may be appointed.

### **Job Duties**

- 1) To assist in the achievement of project targets including;
  - a) Assist with conducting interviews and the coding of the data collected.
  - b) Administer an online survey and assist in the statistical analysis of the data collected.
  - c) Help the research team to collect and analyze objective fatigue data using a driving simulator and real world monitoring protocol of seafarers.
  - d) Assist with the liaison with other international project team members to ensure a unified approach to work through effective communication
  - e) Review relevant literature and summarize it for inclusion in Project Deliverables
  - f) Assist in the preparation of final project reports for project sponsors
  - g) Help with the extraction of relevant information from existing published materials

#### **General, Technical:**

- Share knowledge with other team members.
- To feed back to the team on progress, and assist with the preparation of interim and final project reports.
- To collaborate with colleagues in the project team and wider university.
- To collaborate with co-workers in other Higher Education Institutions, industry and other relevant bodies.
- To support the project team by enhancing its relationship with collaborators and assisting in the establishment of relationships with new collaborators.
- To assist in the preparation of technical articles

### **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 Professor Ashleigh Filtness, Professor of Transport Human Factors and Sleep Science

## 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
Experience	Some experience of working with people and team work in a research context.	1, 3
	A basic understanding of the practical or other aspects of sleepiness/fatigue and/or road accidents/vehicles /highway/transport/maritime safety research issues and data.	1, 3
	Previous experience of helping with research projects and assisting with the preparation of written output/reports.	1, 3
	Some experience of conducting research evaluations and critical literature reviews	1
	Some knowledge of current research issues in the field of sleepiness/fatigue and/or road and vehicle safety	1
	Some knowledge of human factors and ergonomics	1
Skills and abilities	Accuracy and attention to detail, and the ability to write with clarity and precision.	1
	Some knowledge of safety issues relating to fatigue/sleepiness	1, 3
	Some knowledge of applied and experimental research methodologies (qualitative and/or quantitative), including ability to make investigations in a research context and/or analyse datasets using statistical software.	1, 3
	Ability to use SPSS, MS Excel and /or Nvivo software.	1
	Good communication skills.	1, 3
	Ability to capture and interpret research data and written reports.	1, 3
	Ability to work cooperatively with others both inside and outside the School.	1
Qualifications	First degree in a subject related to specific aspects of the job description.	1
Other	Prepared to travel to travel within the UK for data collection	1,3
	Willingness to undertake further technical and personal development training when identified as appropriate.	1
	Observe the University's Equal Opportunity policy at all times.	1

### Desirable Criteria

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	In depth experience of sleepiness/fatigue research	1, 3
Qualifications	Masters degree in a subject related to the job description Working towards or interest in completing a PhD in a subject related to the job description	1,3
Other	Aptitude and motivation to assume more senior duties.	1,3

### Conditions of Service

The position is offered on a full or part time basis, please state preferred option in application and fixed term until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024. Salary will be on Specialist and Supporting Grade 5, £27,979 to £32,982 per annum, at a starting salary to be confirmed on offer of appointment.

The appointment will be subject to the University's Terms and Conditions of Employment for staff grades 1-5 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 can be found [here](#).

The University offers a wide range of employee benefits which can be found [here](#).

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/>

### Applications

The closing date for receipt of applications is 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023. Interviews will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023.