

## Candidate Brief

# Research Fellow

**Reference:** R180549

**Salary:** Grade 8 (£33,199 - £39,609)

**Contract Type:** Fixed Term for 36 months

**Basis:** Full Time (36.5 hours per week)

**Closing Date:** 7 January 2019

**Interview Date:** 17 January 2019

EXCELLENT  
DIFFERENT  
DISTINCTIVE  
ASTON



# Job description

## **Job Purpose:**

Funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council the purpose of this role is to conduct original research in human vision and machine learning. Specifically the post holder will develop novel test methods for assessing human vision linked to machine learning algorithms. The ultimate aim of the project is to develop and algorithms that can convert 2D images into 3D models using a perceptual rendering approach.

## **Main Duties/Responsibilities:**

### **Research**

- ▶ To develop a programme of original research under the guidance of senior staff.
- ▶ To write up and publish the outcomes of research in high quality publications.
- ▶ To present papers, posters, reports at seminars, conferences, workshops etc.
- ▶ To collaborate in research initiatives with colleagues in and beyond the School as appropriate.
- ▶ To help organise and contribute to academic and industry workshops.
- ▶ Where appropriate to School/University strategy and subject discipline, to participate in and develop external networks.
- ▶ To coach junior colleagues in research.

### **Teaching**

- ▶ The post-holder may have the opportunity to undertake a limited amount of teaching with students at a range of levels, achieving good student feedback through critical reflective practice.
- ▶ To assist in the development of student research skills by sharing knowledge and experience on an occasional basis.

### **External engagement**

- ▶ To represent the interests of the subject and School via activities to raise the regional, national and international profile, particularly with the businesses linked to the research project.
- ▶ To forge relationships with the professional bodies and other bodies representing relevant professional interests.

### **Citizenship**

- ▶ To carry out specific (School) roles and functions as may be reasonably required e.g. Head of Department, Programme Director, Personal Tutor, Admissions Tutor).
- ▶ To take part in the meetings and activities of the Academic Department and, on occasion, act as Chair of one or more of the School committees, these responsibilities being equitably distributed across the academic staff.
- ▶ To demonstrate the University's leadership values through own actions and behaviour.
- ▶ To undertake such other duties as may be reasonably requested and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.

### **Additional responsibilities**

- ▶ Engage in continuous personal and professional development in line with the demands of the role, including undertaking relevant training and development activities to develop themselves and support the development of others.
- ▶ Ensure and promote the personal health, safety and wellbeing of staff and students.
- ▶ Carry out duties in a way which promotes fairness in all matters and which engenders trust.
- ▶ Promote equality of opportunity and support diversity and inclusion as well as working to support the University's environmental sustainability agenda and practices.

## Person specification

	Essential	Method of assessment
<b>Education and qualifications</b>	PhD (or near completion) in Neuroscience, Psychology or Computer Science	Application Form
<b>Experience</b>	<p>Experience of initiating and conducting research up to doctoral level.</p> <p>Experience of writing up/contributing to the write up of research for high quality publications including peer reviewed full length conference papers.</p> <p>Experience of producing papers, posters, reports presenting at seminars, conferences etc.</p> <p>Experience of positive collaboration within and outside of candidate's immediate research team.</p> <p>Experience of computer programming for either experiments on human perception or machine learning.</p>	Application form, interview and presentation
<b>Aptitude and skills</b>	<p>Ability to program computers.</p> <p>Ability to present data in both a clear and concise manner that is visually appealing.</p> <p>Ability to prepare written communications to a high standard.</p> <p>Ability to develop and maintain a research programme and to publish in high quality publications.</p> <p>A willingness to undertake further training as appropriate and to adopt new procedures as and when required.</p>	Interview and presentation

	Desirable	Method of assessment
<b>Experience</b>	<p>Previous post-doctoral research experience in a relevant area.</p> <p>Experience of computer programming for experiment design AND machine learning including deep neural networks.</p>	Application form, interview

	Desirable	Method of assessment
	<p>Experience of testing human participants using psychophysical methods.</p> <p>A strong understanding of human visual perception.</p> <p>A strong understanding of machine learning with an emphasis on deep neural networks.</p>	

## How to apply

You can apply for this role online via our website [www.aston.ac.uk/jobs](http://www.aston.ac.uk/jobs). Applications should be submitted by 23.59pm on the advertised closing date. All applicants must complete an application form, along with your CV.

Any CV sent direct to the Recruitment Team and Recruiting Manager will not be accepted. If you require a manual application form then please contact the Recruitment Team via [recruitment@aston.ac.uk](mailto:recruitment@aston.ac.uk).

## Contact Information

### Enquiries about the vacancy:

Name: Dr Andrew Schofield

Job Title: Reader

Tel: 0121 2074 3313

Email: [a.schofield@aston.ac.uk](mailto:a.schofield@aston.ac.uk)

### Enquiries about the application process, shortlisting or interviews:

Recruitment Team via [recruitment@aston.ac.uk](mailto:recruitment@aston.ac.uk) or 0121 204 4500.

## Additional Information

Visit our website [www.aston.ac.uk/hr](http://www.aston.ac.uk/hr) for full details of our salary scales and benefits Aston University staff enjoy

**Salary Scales:** <http://www.aston.ac.uk/staff/hr/payroll-pensions-and-benefits/salary-scales/>

**Benefits:** <http://www.aston.ac.uk/staff/hr/payroll-pensions-and-benefits/>

**Working in Birmingham:** <http://www.aston.ac.uk/birmingham/city-living/>

**Employment of Ex-Offenders:** Under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, a person with a criminal record is not required to disclose any spent convictions unless the positions they applying for is listed an exception under the act.

**Eligibility to work in the UK:** Candidates who are not citizens of the United Kingdom, or another EEA member country, should check their eligibility to enter or remain the UK in advance of making any job application via the UKVI website <https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/work-visas>. Before applying you should ensure that you meet the requirements, including meeting the English language standards. If you do not meet the eligibility criteria, any application for a work visa would be unsuccessful

**Equal Opportunities:** Aston University promotes equality and diversity in all aspects of its work. We aim to ensure, through our admissions policies for students, and our staff recruitment and selection processes that we encourage applications from all groups represented in the wider community at a local, national and international level.

The University will endeavour not to discriminate unfairly or illegally, directly or indirectly, against student or potential students, staff or potential staff. This commitment applies to all functions of the University and to any stage of an individual's career.

An Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form is included within the application form. Data you provide on the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form will be included in a general database, for statistical monitoring purposes, enabling the University to monitor the effectiveness of its Policy, Codes of Practice and Guidelines on Equal Opportunities in Employment. Individuals will not be identified by name.

**Data Protection Act 1998:** Your personal data will be processed in compliance with the DPA and from 25 May 2018 with the GDPR. The University's Data Protection Policy and Privacy Notices, including the Job Applicant Privacy Notice can be found at <http://www.aston.ac.uk/data-protection>. Your application will only be used to inform the selection process, unless you are successful, in which case it will form the basis of your personal record with the University which will be stored in manual and/or electronic files. Information in statistical form on present and former employees is given to appropriate outside bodies.



Full details of our terms and conditions of service and associated policies and procedures are available online at [www.aston.ac.uk/hr](http://www.aston.ac.uk/hr)

