Reference: R200235
Salary: £33,797 to £40,322 (per annum) Grade 8
Contract Type: Fixed term until 31 July 2021
Basis: Full Time (36.5 hours per week)
Closing Date: 23:59 BST on 19 September 2020
Interview Date: TBC

Postdoctoral Research Associate in Forensic Linguistics
Job description

Job Purpose:

The Aston Institute for Forensic Linguistics (AIFL) is recruiting a researcher in linguistics to further develop a project on power and hierarchy in online interaction such that this can be applied to online networks including criminal communities. We can assist with some access to appropriate data but if the applicant's prior history brings with it appropriate data sets these can also contribute to the project.

We will welcome applicants with a broad range of linguistic skills but the project would particularly suit someone with a good knowledge of corpus linguistics, computational linguistics and/or NLP. We seek individuals with the highest potential who either are early in their research career or have begun to establish a reputation for the quality of their research at the forefront of their discipline.

This is a ten-month post with an earliest start date of October 1st 2020 specifically designed to replace a member of staff on a project and the post must conclude on 31st July 2021.

Please note we process sensitive data originating in criminal contexts and exposure to potentially disturbing content may be an integral part of your work. We provide appropriate support as part of our commitment to ethical research.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research

- Make a substantial contribution to the Institute’s research principally through the delivery of the specified research project.
- To collaborate with members of AIFL in researching and preparing bids for sources of research funding.
- Contribute to wider activities of the Institute which may include elements of teaching and training.

Other Related Activities and Functions

- Contribute to the running of the research Institute as determined by the Director.
- Contribute to the overall activities of the School as determined by its Executive Dean.

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.

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## Person specification

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<tr>
<th>Essential</th>
<th>Method of assessment</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Education and qualifications</strong></td>
<td>A PhD in Linguistics / Forensic Linguistics / cognate discipline.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Experience</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrable ability to plan and deliver a research project to a brief.</td>
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| | Demonstrable ability in at least one of the following areas  
  - corpus linguistics  
  - NLP  
  - computational linguistics | |
| **Aptitude and skills** | Strong organisational skills. | Application Form Interview |
| | Competence in IT skills and Internet use, including an ability to undertake word-processing, e-mail communication and web-based information retrieval. | |
| | Professionalism, diplomacy, and interpersonal skills are extremely important. | |
| | Ability to liaise well with colleagues and to work as part of a team. | |
| **Other** | Commitment to observing the University's Equal Opportunities policy at all times. | Application Form Interview |
| | Ability to attend the University as and when required for scheduled teaching, relevant meetings and student support. | |
| | A willingness to undertake further training as appropriate and to adopt new procedures as and when required. | |
How to apply

You can apply for this role online via our website https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/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 jobs@aston.ac.uk.

Contact information

Enquiries about the vacancy:
Name: Professor Tim Grant
Job Title: Director, Aston Institute for Forensic Linguistics
Email: t.d.grant@aston.ac.uk

Enquiries about the application process, shortlisting or interviews:
Recruitment Team via jobs@aston.ac.uk or 0121 204 4500.

Additional Information

Visit our website https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr for full details of our salary scales and benefits Aston University staff enjoy

Salary scales: https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/payroll-and-pensions/salary-scales/index

Benefits: https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/Benefits-and-Rewards/index
Working in Birmingham: https://www2.aston.ac.uk/birmingham

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 https://www2.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 https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/poli