

Reference: R210040

Salary: £33,797 to £59,135

Contract Type: Continuing

Basis: Full Time

Closing Date: 14 March 2021

Interview Date: TBC

Lecturer / Senior Lecturer in Design Engineering and Product Design

Candidate brief



Job description

Job Purpose:

At Lecturer/Senior Lecturer level, we seek a strong candidate in Design Engineering/Product/Industrial Design to add strength to the research and teaching activities in the Mechanical, Biomedical and Design Group. The Group is highly active in developing innovation in teaching and it is expected that the successful candidate will have a strong and progressive student-centred focus to her or his teaching interests.

The successful applicant will also be expected to be active in research in Product Design, Design Engineering or related discipline, with a well-established or developing reputation. Typically, we would expect candidates to present evidence of leadership and innovation, the supervision of research students and fellows, developing track record in attracting research funding, and excellent outputs having both academic and non-academic impact.

The Product Design team sits within the Mechanical, Biomedical and Design group which has strong experience in engineering, materials, sustainability, photonics and sensors etc. As designers, we work with these disciplines as well as focus our teaching and research in; user centred design, design engineering, design practice, sustainable design, design management and design for international development. We are currently working with a number of high-profile companies to exploit the synergies between design and engineering disciplines.

Together with industrial and research opportunities, further growth is also anticipated in teaching related activities, particularly at Masters level and in non-traditional programmes and delivery modes.

The subject group currently runs the following taught degrees:

- BSc Product Design & Technology
- BSc Product Design & Management
- MSci Design, Enterprise and Innovation
- BEng / MEng Mechanical Engineering
- BEng Design Engineering
- BEng / MEng Biomedical Engineering
- MSc Mechanical Engineering

The group as a whole is very much at the forefront of developing new ways of looking at design and engineering education and are leading players within the International CDIO initiative focussed on delivering integrated and practical forms of engineering education. (www.cdio.org)

The post holder would be expected to have a national and international (at Senior Lecturer level) research profile compatible with those of the Subject Group and College. They must be able to operate as a self-starting and independent researcher in a strong position to apply successfully for grants at various levels and also foster and lead a team based environment around their research areas.

Research areas of specific interest to the group are:

- Design Practice
- Design Management
- Engineering and Design education
- Sustainable energy and transport, including decarbonising technologies and use of renewable resources
- Biomedical / Healthcare

We particularly welcome candidates with a strong research background in; design research, design management and/or user centred design.

Aston prides itself on an active and engaging learning approach for its students. The role demands the applicant is effective in working with a lively student community, helping the students to learn and develop through research led-teaching e.g. studio teaching, engaging classes, insightful reviews, industry relevant lectures, tutorials and workshop projects. We are looking for general and specialised teaching and require teaching expertise in; design practice, design management, design for manufacture and/or CAD.

Aston strongly encourages all students to take a third year industry placement job and as such industry awareness and relevant curriculum content is an important factor in this post. Industry links and contacts through staff can clearly prove valuable in this and also in consultative and research & development projects. KTP projects being an ideal example of this where academic staff engage with industrially based research.

Main Duties/Responsibilities:

Research

- To contribute to a research programme consistent with the College's research priorities that will make a significant impact by leading to an increase in knowledge and understanding of Design research and related disciplines
- To involve, develop and support other academic staff in fulfilling their research objectives
- To publish the outcomes of research in outlets of national and international standing
- To actively seek and secure external research funding as principal and co investigator
- To supervise and manage research projects
- To supervise postgraduate students at Master's and Doctoral levels
- To collaborate in research initiatives with colleagues in and beyond the College of Engineering & Physical Sciences as appropriate

Learning and Teaching

- To be responsible for setting standards and monitoring delivery and student progress against standards within the area of responsibility
- To design, develop and deliver a range of programmes of study, including identifying opportunities for the strategic development of new courses or areas of activity
- To contribute to the development of College teaching and learning strategies
- To teach undergraduate and postgraduate students and to carry out the associated assessment and examining processes
- To provide academic support, supervision and advice to undergraduate and postgraduate students.
- To promote the use of a range of methods and techniques in teaching, learning and assessment.
- To contribute to the management of quality, audit and other external assessments in own areas of responsibility.

Community Engagement and Citizenship

- To participate in activities to raise the regional and national profile of the College of Engineering & Physical Sciences and the Mechanical, Biomedical & Design group, particularly with schools and businesses.
- To forge relationships with key local bodies.
- To raise funding for third-stream activities and Intellectual Property exploitation.
- To carry out specific College roles and functions as required e.g. Module Leader, Personal Tutor
- To manage own teaching, scholarship and administrative activities
- To provide pastoral care and support to students.
- To display and promote Aston values through own actions and behaviour.

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
Education and qualifications	<p>A good degree in a relevant subject.</p> <p>A PhD in a relevant discipline e.g. Product/Industrial Design, Design Engineering or related subject.</p> <p>Teaching qualification at the appropriate level e.g. PGCPP/HE (or equivalent) / fellowship or higher of the Higher Education Academy.</p>	Application form
Experience	<p>Experience of initiating, conducting, contributing to and leading independent research, including the successful supervision of researchers.</p> <p>A developing track record of publications in top international journals and conferences.</p> <p>A developing track record of research impact and esteem (such as keynote lectures or international reviewing).</p> <p>Experience in applying for and obtaining research grants and other funding.</p> <p>Experience of teaching and assessing in Design degree programmes to high standards and with demonstrable impact on students' learning.</p> <p>Experience of module design, review and implementation of innovative ideas.</p> <p>Experience of using VLE's as a learning tool e.g. Blackboard.</p>	Application form, interview and presentation
Aptitude and skills	<p>Have ability to deliver educational material in an engaging and interactive manner.</p> <p>Ability to provide academic leadership, including the mentoring of junior staff.</p> <p>Ability to work effectively as a member of a team.</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
Education and qualifications	Membership of relevant professional body.	Application form
Experience	Strong engagement with industry and/or other relevant stakeholders.	Application form, interview and presentation

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: Tim Whitehead

Job Title: Head of Design

Email: t.whitehead@aston.ac.uk

Enquiries about the vacancy:

Name: Dr Laura Leslie

Job Title: Head of Department

Email: l.j.leslie@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: Your personal data will be processed in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation ((EU) 2016/679) ("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/policies>



