

OPPORTUNITY

Research Fellow

Reference: 0131-24

Grade: 8

Salary: £37,099 to £39,347 per annum, depending on experience

Contract Type: Fixed Term until 30/06/2025

Basis: Full Time

Job description

Job Purpose

The Advanced Services Group (ASG) is the centre of excellence in research and practice on the topic of servitization and advanced services within Aston Business School, Aston University. We conduct foundational research of international excellence and support multinational businesses to grow and succeed through the development of outcome-based services and business model innovation.

We are looking to appoint a Post-doctoral Research Fellow to provide support and expand our emerging research and engagement activities around the topics of servitization, business model innovation, environmental sustainability and service-led business models. The present advert is for the quantitative focused role. As part of this role, you will be working with an inter-disciplinary group of academics and industry partners who are involved in on our recently funded ESRC project on '*Understanding How Servitization Can Improve UK Economic Productivity and Environmental Performance*'.

The successful candidate will join a growing team of researchers, industry associates and business engagement professionals based within the Business School at Aston. This team have a wealth of expertise in carrying out world-class research and translating the findings of this work into the knowledge, tools and techniques that deliver business impact.

You will have a PhD in a related discipline, including business, management, economics, or engineering. You must be capable of working with group of academics and have experience or willingness in producing high quality publications. You will need to have good interpersonal and communication skills to collect empirical data, and the knowledge of the dominant paradigms, theories, and empirical methods applicable to the above-mentioned topics. Candidates who have strong knowledge and experience in working with both multinational large and SME manufacturers would also be an advantage.

This is a full-time, fixed-term post until 30/06/2025, with the potential for further extension if we are successful in our research bidding activities. For informal discussions relating to this post, please contact Prof Ali Z. Bigdeli a.bigdeli@aston.ac.uk, +44 (0) 121 204 3384.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research

- ▶ Interpret and write up of findings for high quality academic journal publications and professional/industry articles.
- ▶ Disseminate research findings through academic as well as business-focused conferences and workshops.
- ▶ Collect and analyse *quantitative* data through relevant and suitable methods.
- ▶ Engage with the research team and industrial partners to develop *quantitative models* about servitization, productivity, and environmental sustainability (Net-zero).
- ▶ Maintain a sufficient breadth or depth of specialist knowledge of the discipline and of research methods and techniques to work within established and new research programmes.

- ▶ Fully support the development of further research proposals, contributing novel ideas, concepts, and background material.
- ▶ Assist in the supervision of PhD students and MSc research projects.

Administration and External engagement

- ▶ Maintain accurate and traceable working records and follow the project timeline and the Data Management Plan.
- ▶ Assist in completing the annual report for the Research Council and Researchfish repository.
- ▶ Arrangement of the project and partner meetings and workshops.
- ▶ Travel nationally and internationally to disseminate research outputs, participate in project meetings and activities and plan future research proposals.
- ▶ Actively contribute to research initiatives and collaborate with colleagues in and beyond the school as appropriate.

Citizenship

- ▶ To take part in the meetings and activities of the Advanced Services Group as well as those related to the research project.
- ▶ 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
Education and qualifications	<p>An undergraduate degree in a relevant subject.</p> <p>A doctorate (PhD) in a relevant field, including operations management, operations research, business analytics, information systems, data sciences or engineering.</p>	CV, application form.
Experience	<p>Experience of conducting quantitative data analysis.</p> <p>Experience of developing quantitative modelling and knowledge in statistical packages (such as SPSS or SAS).</p> <p>Simple programming knowledge (i.e., R or comparable frameworks).</p> <p>Knowledge of the dominant theories and empirical methods applicable in the relevant areas including servitization and product-service systems.</p> <p>Track record (or pipeline in development) of publication in high quality journals, and conference presentations in leading relevant conferences.</p> <p>Experience or willingness of working with a range of different organisations and with people at all levels of seniority.</p> <p>Experience or willingness of presenting research results to academic and non-academic audiences.</p>	CV, application form, interview and Presentation.
Aptitude and skills	<p>Good writing skills and willingness to develop skills for writing for academic outputs and industry-focused publications.</p> <p>The ability to work as part of a large dynamic research team.</p>	CV, application form, interview and presentation

	Essential	Method of assessment
	<p>The ability to work independently to measurable performance indicators in particular timescales and defined research outputs.</p> <p>Excellent verbal presentation skills.</p> <p>Networking and organisational skills and the ability to be flexible and responsive.</p> <p>Ability to work collaboratively to produce academic work, such as journal publications and official reports.</p>	

	Desirable	Method of assessment
Education and qualifications	Professional relevant qualifications and/or memberships of relevant professional societies.	CV, application form, interview and presentation
Experience	<p>Publication records in high quality journals.</p> <p>Experience of teaching and training and developing associated materials.</p>	CV, application form, interview and presentation
Aptitude and Skills	<p>Demonstrated aptitude for writing collaborative research proposals.</p> <p>Record of coordination of scientific events, outreach programmes and/or scientific meetings.</p> <p>Record of participation in outreach to non-academic audience.</p>	CV, application form, interview and presentation

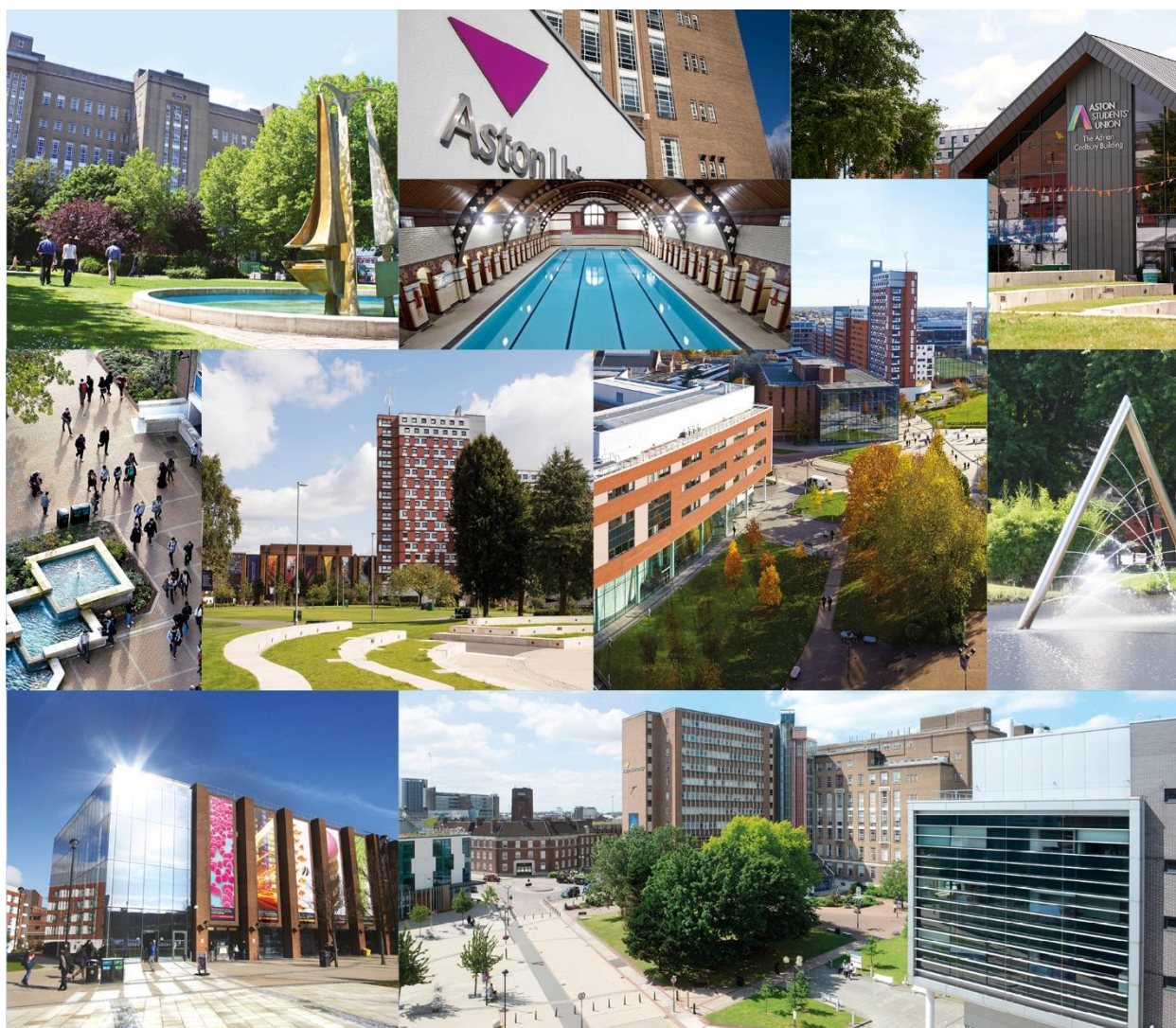
How to apply

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: Prof Ali Z. Bigdeli

Job Title: Professor of Industrial Service Innovation

Email: a.bigdeli@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:

New immigration system from 1 January 2021

A new immigration system has been introduced for people arriving in the UK from EEA countries with effect from 1 January 2021. In addition to those who have always required a visa, EU citizens who were not resident in the UK before 31 December 2021 will need to get a visa in advance.

You can find more information [here](#)

Candidates should check their eligibility to enter or remain in the UK in advance of making any job application via the [UKVI website](#). Before applying you should ensure that you meet the requirements, including meeting the English Language requirements. If you do not meet the eligibility criteria, any application for a work visa would be unsuccessful.

If you require a visa to work in the UK the most common types of visa are:

- Skilled Worker Visa <https://www.gov.uk/skilled-worker-visa>
- Global Talent Visa

If you are a leader or potential leader in one of the following fields you may be eligible to

apply for a Global Talent Visa:

- Academia or Research
- Arts and Culture
- Digital Technology

Please click the following link for further information and to check your eligibility for this visa. <https://www.gov.uk/global-talent>

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>

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**Where change
gets real.**