

OPPORTUNITY

Where change
gets real.



Reference: 0450-24

Grade: 7-8

Salary: £29,605- £39,347 per annum depending on experience.

**Contract Type: Fixed Term (24 months) or until 31st March 2027
whichever the shorter.**

Basis: Full Time

Job description

Job Purpose:

To carry out research into optical communications systems using a combination of optical frequency combs, tuneable lasers and high cardinality modulation formats and contribute to the growth of the group by enhancing reputation and fostering collaboration. In addition, to exploit external links with regional, UK and international bodies such as schools, colleges, professional bodies, business, and industry as appropriate.

Main duties and responsibilities

- ▶ To carry out research in line with the project plan to which you are assigned, implementing novel ideas and planning associated research tasks novel ideas and contributing to the planning of associated research tasks.
- ▶ To develop research objectives, projects and proposals for personal/joint research programmes consistent with the priorities and strategy of AiPT, with the assistance of a mentor if required.
- ▶ Maintain accurate and traceable working records, including appropriate software version control and links to raw data.
- ▶ Maintain a sufficient breadth or depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline, and of research methods and techniques to work within established and new research programmes.
- ▶ To write up and publish the outcomes of research in top quality journals and conferences.
- ▶ Engage fully in Aston Universities Open Access and Open Data initiatives, optimising the format of data to be made accessible, and maintain an appropriate presence on the AiPT web pages and other electronic communication tools.
- ▶ To actively contribute to research initiatives with colleagues in and beyond the College as appropriate.
- ▶ To identify sources of funding, and fully support the development of further research proposals, contributing novel ideas, concepts and background material.

Teaching

- ▶ To assist in the supervision of PhD students, MSc research projects, and provide reasonable support to the delivery of undergraduate modules as requested by your group leader.
- ▶ To contribute to the assessment of student knowledge and the supervision of student projects.
- ▶ To assist in the development of student research skills.

External engagement

- ▶ Travel nationally and internationally to disseminate research output, participate in project meetings and activities and plan future research proposals.
- ▶ To represent the interests of the subject and School via activities to raise the regional, national and international profile, particularly with the professions, schools and businesses.
- ▶ To forge relationships with the professional bodies and other bodies representing relevant professional interests.

Citizenship

- ▶ To take part in the meetings and activities of AiPT and, on occasion, act as Chair of one or more activity, these responsibilities being equitably distributed across all 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
Education and qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 1st class or upper second in Electronic Engineering, Applied Physics or equivalent. <p>Grade 8 Applicants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ PhD (or near to completion) in Optical Communications or closely related field. <p>Grade 7 Applicants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Research experience in optical communications or closely related field. 	Application form.
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Good recent publication record in international journals and high impact conferences including ECOC and/or OFC. ▶ Experience of experimental optical communication system performance characterisation, test bed design and assembly. ▶ Experience of experimental work with high speed optical transceivers. ▶ Experience of the development of advanced digital signal processing algorithms. ▶ Experience of positive collaboration within and outside of candidate's immediate research team. 	Application form and interview.
Aptitude and skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Ability to present data in both a clear and concise manner that is visually appealing. ▶ Ability to prepare written communication to a high standard. ▶ Knowledge of the protection of intellectual property. 	Application form and interview.

	Essential	Method of assessment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="539 123 1029 197">▶ Ability to harness IT as a research and teaching tool.<li data-bbox="539 241 1050 392">▶ A willingness to undertake further training as appropriate and to adopt new procedures as and when required.	

How to apply

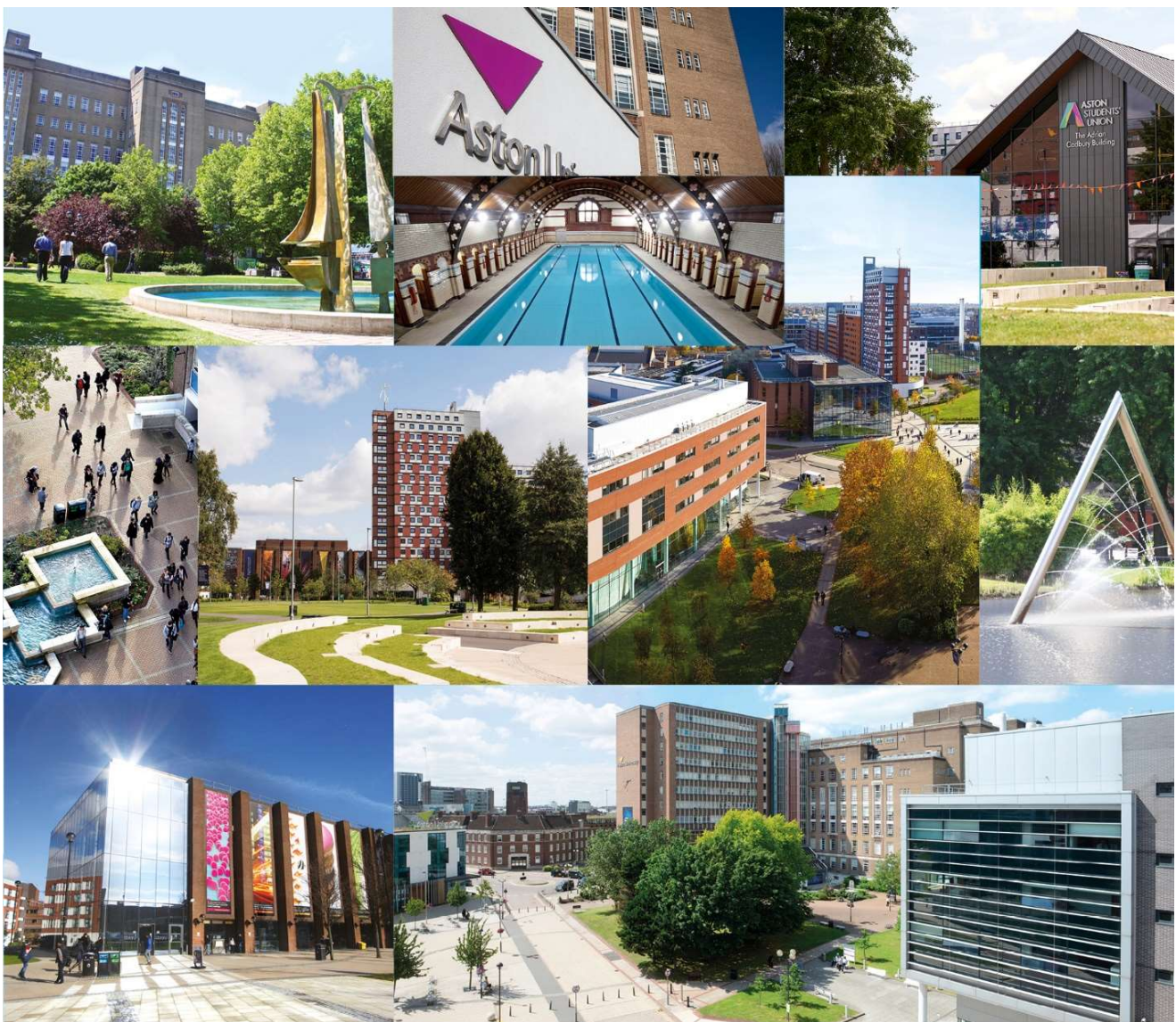
You can apply for this role online via our website <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/jobs>.

Applications should be submitted by 23.59 on the advertised closing date.

All applicants must complete an application form, along with your CV.

Any CV sent directly 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.



Contact information

Enquiries about the vacancy:

Name: Andrew Ellis

Job Title: Professor at Aston Institute of Photonic Technologies

Email: andrew.ellis@aston.ac.uk

Enquiries about the application process, shortlisting or interviews:

Recruitment Team via recruitment@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: [Benefits and Rewards | Aston University](#)

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: You should ensure that you meet the eligibility requirements, including meeting the [English language standards](#). If you do not meet the eligibility criteria, any application for a work visa would be unsuccessful. Please see UKVI guidance for further information on eligibility, knowledge of English requirements and approved test centres <https://www.gov.uk/tier-2-general>

With the end of free movement for EU/EEA/Swiss nationals from 1 January 2021, the UK's new immigration system applies to all non-UK/Irish nationals who require a visa.

Where an individual is subject to UK immigration control, they will require a visa to work in the UK.

The following individuals do not need a visa for the UK, but do still have to prove their right to work before employment can commence:

- **British Citizens or Irish Nationals**
- **EU/EEA/Swiss nationals with Settled or Pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme**
- **Non-EEA nationals with Indefinite Leave to Remain/Settlement in the UK**

The main routes available for those who need a visa to work in the UK are **Skilled Worker**, **Global Talent** and the **Graduate Route**.

You can find further information about each of these visa routes on our [candidate immigration page](#).

If you will conduct research in your role, you may need to apply for and obtain ATAS clearance before Aston can issue a Certificate of Sponsorship for your visa application. Please see below for further details.

Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS): If you will conduct research in your role and you apply for a Skilled Worker or Temporary Worker GAE visa, you may need to apply for and obtain ATAS clearance before Aston can issue a Certificate of Sponsorship for your visa application.

This process can take at least 6 weeks to process, and Aston will consider this when confirming your expected start date. Processing times will increase between April and September and can longer to complete.

There is no fast-track option available. ATAS certificates will be processed in order of receipt.

You can find more information about ATAS on our [candidate immigration page](#).

Before you start and Right to Work

90-day entry vignette

If you have applied for your visa outside of the UK, you will receive a vignette in your passport which is usually valid for 90 days. Please make sure to travel to the UK within the 'valid from' and 'valid to' dates on this visa. If you entered the UK before or after these dates, you would not 'activate' the visa and you would need to leave and re-enter the country.

You will also receive a decision letter confirming details about your immigration permission and where to collect your Biometric Residence Permit.

Cost of Living - Estate and Letting Agents

There are numerous Estate and Letting Agents in and around Birmingham that can help you find suitable accommodation. The [Midland Landlord Accreditation Scheme](#) provides a list of professional agencies and landlords who have applied with them for accreditation. Whilst accreditation is not a guarantee of quality, it provides some reassurance about the standard of the service they provide.

You can also use property search websites such as [Rightmove](#) or [Zoopla](#).

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>

Aston University
Birmingham
B4 7ET, UK.

+44 (0)121 204 3000

www.aston.ac.uk



**Where change
gets real.**