Aston University
BIRMINGHAM UK

Professor in Civil Engineering



Reference: 1773-26

Grade: Band 01

Salary: £68,626 - £106,806 depending on experience

Contract Type: Permanent

Basis: Full-time

Job Purpose

Aston University is seeking to appoint a Professor in Civil Engineering, in the Department of Civil and Logistics Engineering, in School of Engineering and Innovation.

Aston University has a tradition of professionally engaged teaching and a reputation for cutting edge applied research with a portfolio of grants worth over £18M in 2020.

Research within the School is supported by grants from a range of sources including projects awarded by grant awarding bodies including EPSRC, HorizonEurope and Innovate UK. Staff are fully supported through staff development in teaching, research, leadership and media training.

Main Duties/Responsibilities

- To pursue and lead an internationally recognised research programme which both informs and is consistent with the School's research priorities.
- To publish the outcomes of research, with a record of securing publications in internationally rated journals of high standing.
- To have proven experience of securing significant external funding from prestigious funders including research councils, charities and the European Commission and a record of successfully leading and managing research projects, people and resources.
- To establish partnership links with external organisations to enhance College and Aston's research and industry profile.
- To provide strong leadership and team building in the management of research projects.
- To successfully supervise postgraduate students at Doctoral level. To foster an environment which encourages research among students at postgraduate level.
- To lead research initiatives with colleagues and a wide range of external collaborators including internationally funded research projects.
- To conduct research capable of demonstrating significant impact e.g. research which has the potential to benefit the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life.
- To mentor peers and colleagues in research as required.
- To play an active role in the management and development of Civil Engineering and related subject areas, for example, Construction or Transport.
- To build critical mass and promote excellence in the School's research priority areas.

Teaching and Learning

- To identify strategic areas for new teaching provision.
- To teach students at different levels as appropriate including foundation, undergraduate and postgraduate students, and to carry out the associated examining processes.
- To lead the design and content of specific areas of teaching and learning within the School's teaching programmes.
- To provide academic support, pastoral care and advice to foundation, undergraduate and postgraduate students.

- To mentor peers and colleagues in effective practice.
- To cooperate with colleagues across disciplines in the continuous review and development of programmes and the curriculum.
- To use and promote the use of a range of methods and techniques in teaching, learning and assessment including pursuing digital and modern methods of delivery.
- To lead on supporting and promoting quality assurance measures within the University e.g. by evaluation and development of modules for which the lecturer has responsibility, in terms of content, delivery and assessment as well as reviewing delivered modules, setting and receiving student feedback questionnaires.
- To innovate in teaching, demonstrating continuous professional development and critical reflective practice.
- To participate in the relevant graduation ceremonies.

External Engagement

- To develop student placement schemes with companies and research institutions both in the UK and overseas.
- To demonstrate research impact and secure commercialisation, identifying and pursuing opportunities for translational research where appropriate to role and discipline.
- To establish or continue to build on a record of invited international keynote conference presentations and prestige lectures.
- To establish and lead partnerships for commercialisation including patents, inventions and other exploitable intellectual property as applicable to subject area and/or to lead to improved practice, policy development or professional development.
- To engage with translational research with a view to external collaboration and establishing partnerships with outputs such as commercialisation, improved practice and policy.
- To develop research and development collaborations with industry partners to secure additional direct funding.
- To contribute to businesses, the public sector and communities e.g. through innovation, knowledge transfer, cultural enrichment, advising government bodies, contributing to and influencing government (UK or overseas) policy-making and standards.
- To enhance the University's reputation with professional/scholarly bodies e.g. by promoting public understanding of the subject.
- To support community engagement activities to raise the regional and national profile of the Department, School and University.

Citizenship

- To carry out School and University roles and functions as may be reasonably required.
- To participate in continuing professional development e.g. through seminars or conferences and by engaging in training programmes run by the University which are consistent with the needs and aspirations of the academic and the School.
- To demonstrate and promote the University's leadership values through own actions and behaviour.

- To provide pastoral care and support to staff and students.
- To make a significant contribution to governance and collegial life within and outside the University, for example by Chairing School committees, undertaking significant administrative positions, or participating in or Chairing University-level committees.
- To undertake such other duties as may be reasonably requested and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.
- To undertake other responsibilities and duties as reasonably requested by the Head of School.

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	A good first degree in a relevant discipline. A doctorate in a relevant academic discipline. A recognised teaching qualification and/or membership of Advance HE (formerly the Higher Education Academy) at Fellow level or above Current membership of a relevant professional body.	Application form
Experience	Experience of teaching and assessment on relevant undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, and of professional examining. Track record of innovation in the design and delivery of taught programmes at undergraduate or postgraduate level, where teaching is the focus.	Application form and interview

	Essential	Method of assessment
	Substantial experience in managing, designing and delivering modern Civil Engineering Experience of supporting PhD students through to successful completion. A significant track record of publications in high-quality international/peer reviewed journals. Experience of initiating an independent line of research, applying for, and securing external research funding with a strong ongoing pipeline. Ability to demonstrate an understanding of the impact of equality and diversity in higher education and in professional practice within the civil engineering and construction field. Relevant industrial experience / experience of course management.	
Aptitude and skills	Ability to lead the development and implementation of research strategy and/or teaching strategy. Ability to lead on the design and development of the curriculum. Ability to harness IT as a research and teaching tool. Highly developed communication and presentation skills to present research findings at national and international conferences. Ability to develop internal and external networks that will raise the profile of the subject and University. Ability to provide tutorial and counselling advice to undergraduate and postgraduate students. Ability to take on leadership roles at subject group/School/University level.	Application form and interview

	Essential	Method of assessment
	Commitment to observing the University's Equal Opportunities policy at all times. A willingness to undertake further training as appropriate and to adopt new procedures as and when required.	

	Desirable	Method of assessment
Education and qualifications	A Postgraduate Certificate in Professional Practice (PGCPP), or equivalent qualification.	Application form
Experience	Management and leadership of an academic department. Management of budgets and budget setting. Experience in industrial partnership and collaboration on R&D projects.	Application form, interview, and presentation
Aptitude and Skills	Proven leadership abilities.	Interview and presentation

University values

All staff are expected to demonstrate/promote the University's values and expectations, which are an integral part of our strategy and underpin the culture of the University. In addition, our leaders are expected to be accountable, help to execute strategic visions of the University and share and set clear expectations that inspire those around them.



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 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.

Contact information

Enquiries about the vacancy:

Name: Dr Lucy Rackliff
Job Title: Head of Department of Civil and Logistics Engineering
Email: L.rackliff@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: 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**.

Please see UKVI guidance for further information on eligibility, knowledge of English requirements and approved test centres https://www.gov.uk/skilled-worker-visa You can also find further information on our candidate immigration web 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 our candidate immigration web page for further details.

Before you start and Right to Work

Right to Work Check
All employees must complete a Right to Work check before they commence work at Aston. HR will contact you during the onboarding process to arrange your check.

Cost of Living - Estate and Letting Agents
There are numerous Estate and Letting Agents that can help you find suitable accommodation. Useful websites for support and guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-to-rent/how-to-rent-the-checklist-for-renting-in-england and https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/housing/
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

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