



FURTHER PARTICULARS FOR THE ROLE

**Research Fellows in International Business/ Economics (2 posts)
(Aston Centre for Research in International Business)**

2 years fixed term

Aston Business School

Reference Number: R110198

Closing date: Friday 17 June 2011

Interview date: tbc

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Role Description

Research Fellows in Economics/International Business

Purpose of role:

There are two posts, in the areas of International Business or economics. The posts holders will contribute to one of the two themes to be pursued by the research centre. The first of these themes relates to the study of international technology transfer, international business and firm performance. The second concerns the importance of institutions in international business. The aim of the research centre is to make empirical and theoretical contributions to the aforementioned themes that are commensurate with publications in leading international business / strategy journals. The centre also expects to generate significant research income in the foreseeable future. The research fellows will be expected to make significant contribution to the strategies of the centre to both publish in 4* journals, and to attract significant research funding. The Economics and Strategy group has a high success rate in both this area, and significant support is provided for all researchers, including research fellows.

Responsibilities:

1. Contribute to research of teams of researchers working on academic papers, by way of management of existing databases such as ORBIS, and linking these firm level data archives to more aggregate data sets as appropriate.
2. Undertake rigorous econometric analysis of data for the aforementioned research, using econometric software such as Stata.
3. Read academic papers, peer-reviewed journals and textbooks regularly and attend conferences to keep abreast of developments in the relevant literature.
4. Work with researchers associated with the centre on his/her own papers, and presenting these papers at seminars and high impact conferences.
5. Contribute towards the efforts of the centre to generate external research income, in part by assisting others to develop grant applications, and in part by taking advantage of funding opportunities available to early career researchers. The latter may include applying for post doctoral fellowships, for example.
6. Provide administrative support to the centre, where relevant. This could include, for example, contribution towards management of successful grant applications by drafting interim and end-of-grant-period reports, and contribution towards organisation of the 2013 annual conference of the AIB (UK & Ireland Chapter) which will be hosted by Aston Business School.

In addition, all research fellows are expected to do a small amount of teaching as part of their contracts. This contributes to their development as academics and supports the wider work of the centre, and is expected to be the equivalent of two hours of contact time per week.

Person Specification

MOA = Method of assessment

Application Form (AF) Interview (I)

	ESSENTIAL	MOA
Educations and Qualifications	Good first degree in a social science field and postgraduate studies in economics or international business with a quantitative focus.	AF
	A PhD (or close to submitting theses) in either in applied economics, with an interest in IB, or in IB with a strong quantitative focus.	AF
Experience	Conducting state-of-the art quantitative analysis in the area of economics or international business.	AFI
	Knowledge of the dominant paradigms / theories applicable in international business.	AFI
	Experience in working with large firm level data sets.	AFI
Aptitudes and skills	Good written communication skills	AF
	Computer literate in and knowledge of STATA or similar package	AF
	The ability to work as part of a research team	I
	Ability to work to measurable performance indicators, particularly timescales	AFI
	Good presentation skills	I
	Willingness to engage in “third stream” research such as tenders for projects with HMG departments or similar.	I
	DESIRABLE	MOA
Education and Qualifications	Experience in linking data from different levels – e.g., firm level data to country level data.	AF, I
Experience	Producing independent academic work, such as working papers and publications from their PhD	AF
	Presenting research results to non-academic audiences	AFI
	Some experience in teaching IB or economics	AFI

OUTLINE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE APPOINTMENT

- Term of appointment: The posts are funded by a new research centre for a fixed term of 2 years. The appointment is Grade 8 and the starting salary for this grade is £29,972 per annum.
- Holiday entitlement: 30 days in addition to up to 13 days for specified Public and University holidays.
- Pension: Eligible staff are offered a defined benefit pension with the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS).
- Performance related pay: In addition to the basic salary, the University operates a PRP scheme. Awards are determined on an annual basis.
- Qualifications: Successful candidates will be required to produce evidence of their qualifications upon joining the University.
- Relocation: Newly-appointed staff are required to establish their homes within reasonable daily travelling distance to and from the University. The University operates a relocation scheme to assist newly-appointed staff in meeting this requirement. Full details of the relocation scheme are included with offers of appointment.
- Medical examination: It is a condition of appointment that newly-appointed staff receive medical clearance from the University's Health Centre.
- Eligibility to work in the UK: Candidates who are not citizens of the United Kingdom, or of another EEA member country, should ensure that they meet the requirements of one of the 5 tiers of the immigration points based system. Candidates should check their eligibility to enter or remain in the UK **in advance of making any job application** using the [points-based calculator](#) on the UK Border & Immigration Agency (UKBA) website. If you do not meet the minimum points requirement, you will not be able to work in the UK and any application for employment would be unsuccessful.
- Document checks: As a result of the implementation of sections 15 to 26 of the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality 2006 Act on 29 February 2008, the University requires all prospective and, in some cases, current employees, to provide documentation to verify their eligibility to work in the UK. Further information about these requirements can be found on the UK Border Agency website. www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk.
- Full details of the salary scales, terms and conditions of service and associated policies and procedures are available on the recruitment website.

FURTHER ADVICE

Please contact Professor Nigel Driffield, for an informal discussion about the posts.

Tel: +44(0) 121 204 3209 Email: n.i.driffield@aston.ac.uk

If you would like information on the progress of your application, or advice on any aspect of the appointment process generally, or the terms and conditions of service, please do not hesitate to contact:

Sarah Carey	HR Advisor	+44 (0) 121 204 4586	s.j.carey@aston.ac.uk
Jenni Medza	HR Administrator	+44 (0) 121 204 4590	j.medza@aston.ac.uk

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES STATEMENT

Aston University undertakes to promote equality and diversity within the University Community in all aspects of its work. Further, it aims to ensure through its admissions policies for students and its recruitment and selection processes for staff that it encourages 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 students 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 at Aston. For further details of policies and codes of practice on race, gender, disability, religion and belief, sexual orientation and age see:

<http://www.aston.ac.uk/staff/equalops/>

An Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form is included with the application form.

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998

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 may be stored in manual and/or electronic files. Information in statistical form on present and former employees is given to appropriate outside bodies.

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, Code of Practice and Guidelines on Equal Opportunities in Employment. Individuals will not be identified by name.