



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

**University Academic Fellow in Experimental Biogeochemistry
School of Earth and Environment, Faculty of Environment**



Salary: Grade 8 (£40,792 – £48,677 p.a.)

Reference: ENVEE1304

Closing date: 10 March 2019

We will consider flexible working arrangements

University Academic Fellow in Experimental Biogeochemistry

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Are you an experienced and ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a strong research background in Experimental Biogeochemistry? Do you want to further your career in a World-Leading research group and a research-intensive Russell Group University?

With a vision and drive to contribute to a World-Leading research portfolio, as well as a passion for undertaking research-led teaching, you will make a significant impact on the performance, stature and profile of research and student education at The University of Leeds.

In recent years experimental biogeochemistry has revolutionised the way we understand the Earth system. In particular, exciting new advances in tools to investigate both controlled and natural systems are providing unprecedented insight into the small-scale mechanisms and processes that often control elemental behaviour at the local, regional and global scales. In the [Cohen Geochemistry Group](#) we have an established, internationally recognised track record in pioneering research across a range of temporal and spatial scales to understand the coupling of geological, chemical and biological processes at or near the Earth's surface in marine and terrestrial environments. With increasing capability to investigate these processes we recognise that our understanding of how basic chemical and biological phenomena control our planet is still in its infancy. To capitalise on this new era in experimental biogeochemical research we are seeking a University Academic Fellow who will develop and expand our research agenda in this highly topical field.

As a University Academic Fellow you will develop and lead new avenues of research in experimental biogeochemistry. You will have a PhD and significant proven research experience in experimental biogeochemistry, with a developing record of international quality publications. You will have a clear and compelling research plan with the potential to deliver academic excellence at an international level, the potential to obtain competitive research funding, and the potential and commitment to undertake high quality and innovative teaching. You should also be able to develop collaborative research with members of the [Cohen Geochemistry Group](#), and show the potential to make links across relevant areas of research and major strategic research investments at the University, such as [water@leeds](#) and the [Global Food and Environment Institute](#), where your fundamental understanding of biogeochemical processes is integral to a range of regional and global environmental challenges.

Career Pathway: Tenure track equivalent post requiring successful completion of a 5 year development plan, leading to appointment to a grade 9 Associate Professor, with the potential for accelerated progression.

What does the role entail?

As a University Academic Fellow your main duties will include:

- Pursuing a programme of individual and collaborative research, resulting in high quality publications and a national and international profile and engaging with industry as appropriate to attract and co-ordinate major initiatives;
- Promoting the integration of your own research area with other research interests, in the School, Faculty and University;
- Attracting research funding individually and collaboratively to underpin high quality research activity and research programmes/projects;
- Developing a strategy to ensure that your research has the potential for impact beyond academia;
- Undertaking research-led teaching at different levels, with engagement in continual improvement in response to student and other feedback;
- Contributing to the design, development and planning of teaching modules and policy within the subject area as required;
- Working in partnership with students to provide outstanding education and an excellent student experience;
- Contributing to the management of the School or cross university interdisciplinary initiatives by taking on appropriate leadership, management and administrative responsibility;
- Leading academic initiatives and projects in research and student education which facilitate School, Faculty and/or University development;
- Participating in the recruitment, management and development of staff as well as acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues;
- Contributing to the development of the discipline or research area, e.g. through organisation of conferences or membership of key bodies setting the strategic direction of the area;
- Contributing to the development and achievement of University, faculty and school strategy within the context of an international, research-led university;
- Becoming a specialist in the field, developing and maintaining an external profile as appropriate to the discipline;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development;
- Carrying out the duties of the post in accordance with University policies, procedures, values and standards, including the Leadership and Management standard.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

What will you bring to the role?

As a University Academic Fellow you will have:

- A PhD (or equivalent qualification) in a relevant field;
- Significant research expertise in experimental biogeochemistry;
- Evidence of the potential to secure significant external funding to support your research activity;
- A clear and compelling academic plan that will deliver academic and more general impact at an international level;
- A clear strategy to connect across the different research groups within the University;
- Significant proven research experience within the academic discipline with a developing record of internationally excellent publications;
- Experience of presenting at national and international conferences and/or symposia;
- Evidence of building strong working relationships within and, as appropriate, beyond your own discipline and to contribute to successful projects and collaborations;
- The potential and commitment to undertake high quality and innovative teaching and gain a higher education teaching qualification or award;
- Experience of delivering and engaging with student education where opportunities have existed;
- A high level of interpersonal and communication skills, and a strong ability to communicate effectively in writing and verbally with students, academic and external audiences;
- The ability to lead projects and organise, balance and prioritise work commitments.

You may also have:

- Expertise in new experimental and analytical techniques for solid-state investigation, including advanced imaging and spectroscopic tools;
- Expertise in multi-dimensional investigation of physiochemical processes, including real-time monitoring of element behavior;
- Experience of leading on projects and initiatives, including managing resources and conflicting priorities within challenging circumstances;
- A growing track record of successful and innovative teaching at both undergraduate and/or postgraduate level;
- Experience of involvement in postgraduate research supervision;

- Experience of working collaboratively with external partner organisations;
- Experience of mentoring in the workplace.

How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information page. Applications should be submitted by **23.59** (UK time) on the advertised closing date.

Contact information

For any queries, please email: UAFSupport@leeds.ac.uk

To explore the post further, please contact:

Caroline Peacock, Professor of Biogeochemistry

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 7877

Email: C.L.Peacock@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Working at Leeds

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area on our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

Candidates with disabilities

Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found on our [Accessibility](#) information page or by getting in touch with us at disclosure@leeds.ac.uk.

Criminal record information

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

A criminal record check is not required for this position. However, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information page.