



**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**

## **CANDIDATE BRIEF**

**University Academic Fellow in Artificial Intelligence in Financial Services  
Leeds University Business School & the School of Computing**



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

**Reference: LUBSC1368**

**Closing date: 10 March 2019**

**We will consider flexible working arrangements**

## **University Academic Fellow in Artificial Intelligence in Financial Services**

### **Leeds University Business School and the School of Computing**

**Are you an experienced and ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a strong research background in computer science, artificial intelligence and machine learning? Do you want to further your career in a world-leading, 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.

Leeds University Business School and the School of Computing has a growing portfolio of research and teaching in the areas of technology and innovation as applied to financial services i.e. Fintech. Recently, we have established a cross-University Research Centre in Fintech and the area is now a key strategic priority for the University. This Centre brings together experts from disparate areas all of whom can contribute to the development and application of technology in financial services across a range of domains. Current research activity includes developing the use of artificial intelligence in audit, understanding the impact of technology on jobs and employment, and how technology can help improve productivity.

In teaching, the growing demand for students including company executives is growing significantly and a new MSc in Financial Technology specifically aimed at executives will be launching in 2019. As part of our strategic expansion in this area, we are seeking to appoint in any one of the following areas as applied to Fintech:

- Artificial intelligence
- Machine learning
- Real-time systems and control

You will help to deliver the University's strategic vision in this area by:

- Strengthening the Schools links to salient work in other Schools and Institutes across the University where there are complementarities e.g. the Leeds Institute of Data Analytics;
- Building collaborations across the Alan Turing Institute of which Leeds is a member;
- Contributing to the Schools development of funding streams and real-world projects, and
- Enhancing the Schools ability to deliver outstanding taught programmes in this area.

You will be expected to:

- Conduct and publish high-quality research in your field, delivering outputs rated 3\* and 4\* that are returnable in the next REF;
- Establish and maintain technology platforms that facilitate knowledge transfer and innovation;
- Submit high-quality funding proposals to deliver a portfolio of fundamental and applied research projects, where appropriate with external collaborators, to achieve the Schools income norm by the end of the third year, and to exceed it by the end of the fifth;
- Contribute to the Schools taught programmes, including teaching on specialist topics aligned with financial technology.

**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 statistics and machine learning 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 Artificial Intelligence, including deep learning and machine learning, with a developing record of internationally excellent publications;
- Evidence of the potential to secure significant external funding to support your research;
- 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:

- 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](mailto:UAFSupport@leeds.ac.uk)

To explore the post further, please contact:

**Dr Iain Clacher, Leeds University Business School**

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 6860

Email: [I.Clacher@lubs.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:I.Clacher@lubs.leeds.ac.uk)

**Professor David Hogg, School of Computing (Faculty of Engineering)**

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 5765

Email: [D.C.Hogg@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:D.C.Hogg@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](mailto: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.