



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Cryospheric Science, School of Geography



**Salary: Grade 7 (£33,199 – £39,609 p.a.)** Due to funding limitations it is unlikely an appointment will be made higher than £34,189 p.a.

**Reference: ENVGE1095**

**Closing date: 21 August 2019**

**Fixed-term for 17 months (External Funding)**

**We will consider job share / flexible working arrangements**

## **Research Fellow in Cryospheric Science, School of Geography, Faculty of Environment**

**Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have skills in modelling and monitoring the impacts of climatic changes on glacial environments? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?**

We are looking to recruit an independent and ambitious Postdoctoral Research Fellow on the NERC-CONCYTEC funded project PEGASUS, which aims to maximise the opportunities and minimise the risks presented by emerging glacial lakes in high-elevation catchments of the Peruvian Andes. You will first spend time collating climate model outputs for the Cordillera Blanca and the Cordillera Vilcanota, Peru, before working in Ottawa with project partners at Carleton University, to derive forecasts of permafrost evolution in the study region. You will subsequently be based in Leeds, but working remotely with partners at WSL in Switzerland to supply the necessary climate model inputs for simulations of glacier change. You will also contribute to field seasons in the study region maintaining glaciological, climatological and hydrological monitoring stations, and to in-country project meetings and stakeholder engagement events. You will have existing skills in numerical modelling, programming, and an appetite for fieldwork at high-elevation, as well as a track-record of publishing high-quality papers from your previous research. The post includes an allocation of funds for conference attendance and for job-specific training courses if required.

### **What does the role entail?**

As a Research Fellow, your main duties will include:

- Assembling existing climatological and glaciological datasets for the study region from previous projects and existing publications;
- Working with project partners on deriving permafrost, glaciological and hydrological simulations from present-day until the end of the century;
- Participating in field seasons in the Peruvian Andes, maintaining climatological, glaciological and hydrological monitoring stations;
- Contributing to the work of the research team as a whole; through generation of ideas, input to study design and problem solving for example;



- Taking responsibility for the routine upkeep and maintenance of field equipment belonging to the project team and/or external partners and liaising with technical staff in this matter as required;
- Contributing to knowledge transfer in Peru, through giving lectures and/or seminars at appropriate academic institutions;
- Leading and contributing to research papers for publication;
- Participating in and contributing to regular project meetings;
- Transforming and applying knowledge acquired from the PEGASUS project by presenting research papers at conferences and scientific meetings;
- Contributing to and encouraging joint discussions with the wider research group and partners;
- Developing collaborations with colleagues at the University of Leeds and with external organisations/other Institutions to develop new external research links;
- Contributing to the development of further research funding applications.

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 Research Fellow you will have:

- A PhD or close to completion - i.e. the initial thesis needs to have been handed in at the point of application, in Climatology, Glaciology, Geology or a related discipline;
- Expertise in numerical modelling for climatological, permafrost and glacio-hydrological applications;
- Coding skills, preferably in Python or R;
- Experience of contributing to glaciological or related fieldwork in remote environments;
- Ability to work effectively with others in a team environment;
- Strong quantitative data analysis skills;
- The ability to communicate your work well locally as well at national and international conferences, and write high quality articles for publication;
- Initiative to explore new ideas and contribute to the development of the research, both conceptually and in practice;



- An ability and willingness to spend between four and six months at Carleton University (Canada);
- Ability to undertake independent original research and contribute significantly to a research programme;
- A developing track record of peer-reviewed publications in international journals.

You may also have:

- Specific knowledge of modelling approaches for simulating climatic, glacier and permafrost change in mountain environments;
- Familiarity with micro-climatology and with climate data (netCDF files);
- Experience of working independently in a foreign country;
- Knowledge, of basic electronics, mechanics and field equipment maintenance;
- Knowledge of the rationale for the project, e.g. the challenges facing the Andean region with glacier mass loss, lake development and water resources.

## 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

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

**[Dr Duncan Quincey](#), Associate Professor**

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 3312

Email: [D.J.Quincey@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:D.J.Quincey@leeds.ac.uk)

## Additional information

Find out more about the [School of Geography](#)

Find out more about our [Faculty](#)

Find out more about our [Research](#) and associated facilities



## **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.

