



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Manufacturing Processes, Faculty of Engineering & Physical Sciences



Salary: Grade 7 (£33,797 – £40,322 p.a.) Due to funding restrictions, an appointment will not be made above £35,845 p.a.

Reference: EPSME1020

Closing date: 15 March 2020

Fixed-term for 2 years (with the possibility for extension)

We will consider flexible working arrangements

Research Fellow in Manufacturing Processes

School of Mechanical Engineering

Are you an experienced and ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Are you interested in manufacturing processes? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?

The [Future Manufacturing Processes Research Group](#) explore how novel methods of manufacturing can provide new capabilities in products and services across a wide range of applications. The group have a large portfolio of externally funded research projects, in addition to significant flexible funding for long-term strategic research initiatives. The group have recently been recognised, by extensive external peer review, to be World Leading.

The group's research is conducted from an original baseline, which allows us to explore novel hypothesis and paradigms of new manufacturing capabilities. This predominantly concerns the research development of novel manufacturing process apparatus and instrumentation. We work across material types and different application domains.

We are looking for an outstanding post-doctoral researcher that will make contributions to new manufacturing processes, with specialised areas of study that may include (but not exclusive to):

- Machine design and engineering
- Materials engineering for manufacturing processes
- Non-conventional manufacturing processes
- Computer-aided-manufacture
- Robotics, mechatronics, and automation

You will work on designing, formulating, and refining new manufacturing process apparatus such that it is capable of the required material compatibility, compositional variation, and scales and accuracy of fabrication. This will include the design and engineering of new or adapted components, systems and hardware to enable effective operation. It will then involve conducting experimentation with the manufacturing process and analysis of its performance. You will work alongside existing Research Fellows, PhD researchers, and academic leaders. You will be integrated into our wider research team and benefit from specialist technical support. The experimental work will be conducted in our new state-of-the-art research laboratory.



Holding a PhD in engineering or a closely allied discipline, you will have a strong background in the development and use of engineering apparatus and instrumentation to fabricate specialist devices. You will also have an enthusiastic, creative approach to your research and thrive on working with a team.

What does the role entail?

As a Research Fellow, your main duties will include:

- Conducting research into the development and operation of the manufacturing process, and conducting technical research on materials, components and other parts as necessary;
- Design and engineering of new or adapted components, systems and hardware to enable the fabrication of devices and components;
- Study and benchmark elements including material compatibility, compositional changes, and scales and accuracy of the resultant components;
- Benchmarking alternative manufacturing processes as well as likely future technology developments;
- Developing research objectives and proposals and contributing to setting the direction of the research in collaboration with colleagues;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used and results obtained by other researchers and to relate such evaluations appropriately to your own work;
- Communicating or presenting research results through publication or other recognised forms of output;
- Preparing papers for publication in leading international journals and independently writing reports;
- Working both independently and also as part of a larger team of researchers, engaging in enterprise activities where appropriate and feasible;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development and aiding other colleagues as appropriate;
- Contributing to the training of both undergraduate and postgraduate students, including assisting with the supervision of projects in areas relevant to the project.

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 in engineering or a closely allied discipline;
- A strong background, and evidence of, the use of engineering apparatus and instrumentation;
- A strong background, and evidence of, prior work in creating bespoke and sometimes complex devices;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines and work effectively under pressure;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills including presentation skills;
- Proven ability to manage competing demands effectively, responsibly and without close support;
- A proven ability to work well both individually and in a team;
- A commitment to your own continuous professional development.

You may also have:

- A proven track record of peer-reviewed publications in high impact factor journals;

Please note: This is currently a fixed term position for 2 years, but there is the possibility of contract continuation beyond this in conjunction with our wider portfolio of research.

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:

[Professor Russell Harris](#), Future Manufacturing Processes Research Group

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 2155

Email: r.harris@leeds.ac.uk



Additional information

Faculty and School Information

Further information is available on the research and teaching activities of the [Faculty of Engineering](#) and [School of Mechanical Engineering](#).

A diverse workforce

The Schools in the Faculty of Engineering & Physical Sciences are proud to have been awarded the Athena SWAN [Bronze](#) or [Silver](#) Award from the Equality Challenge Unit, the national body that promotes equality in the higher education sector. Our [equality and inclusion webpage](#) provides more information.

Working at Leeds

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it's 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

