UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Professor of Theoretical Computer Science,

Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences

Salary: Grade 10 (competitive salary)

Reference: EPSCP1154

Closing date: Sunday 16 June 2024

We are open to discussing flexible working arrangements

Professor of Theoretical Computer Science,
School of Computing,
Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences.

The School of Computing at the University of Leeds is a highly ranked academic department (top 10 in the UK REF2021) with a vibrant research culture and a commitment to excellence in our teaching. There are currently around 45 members of academic staff, and we are now expanding to create new academic positions.

As part of this expansion, we are looking to appoint a new colleague at Professor level for a new permanent (tenure equivalent) post in the School in any area of Algorithms and Complexity.

Overview of the Role

We are seeking an academic with a track record of research excellence that aligns with the School's Algorithms and Complexity Research Theme, and in particular that has research expertise at the interface of Discrete Mathematics and algorithmic aspects of Theoretical Computer Science. The candidate also needs to make a strong contribution to our teaching and to the delivery of an exceptional student experience.

We would particularly welcome applications from individuals with expertise to build bridges between our research thematic areas (see Faculty and School section below) contributing to multidisciplinary activity within and beyond the School.

Opportunities exist for teaching across a wide range of the undergraduate taught postgraduate Computer Science syllabus in Leeds, overseas in our partner universities, and our fully- online programmes.

You will have a sustained track record of excellence in research and student education, with demonstrable evidence to provide guidance, combined with the ability to provide academic leadership.

As a member of the School of Computing, you will be part, of a vibrant and diverse community, offering flexible working and support for the continued academic development of our faculty.


The role holders will be expected to align with the University's new 10-year strategy: University Values and Global Change (https://spotlight.leeds.ac.uk/strategy/) and our institutional values: collaboration, compassion, inclusivity and integrity.

Main duties and responsibilities

The main duties will include:

- Contributing to the delivery of exceptional student education and overall experience within the School through:
    - Delivering high-quality, research-led teaching, including assessment and examinations, in a timely manner at different levels and through different modes of study (on-campus, on-line and/or off-site);
    - Providing support, guidance, and timely feedback to students, acting as a personal tutor, resolving issues or referring to specialist parties where appropriate;
    - The development and delivery of modules and degree programmes within the School, including the development of innovative educational approaches, and participating in the review and quality assurance;
    - Providing leadership in the development of our student education provision.

- Pursuing programmes of internationally recognised research, characterised by significant contributions to the field and societal impact, including building and leading a research group of appropriate composition for the research being undertaken. This will include:
    - Sustaining a major research activity with demonstrable impact through securing external funding;
    - Being an advocate for your discipline nationally and internationally, with the capacity to help shape the future of your area of expertise;
    - Maintaining a record of high-quality research outputs including conference presentations;
    - Building academic networks to enable the integration of your own research area with other research interests within and, as appropriate, outside the School of Computing;
    - Providing research supervision and helping to attract funded postgraduate research students to the University;



- Contributing effectively to the administrative processes and committee structures of the School/Faculty including taking on leadership roles and, where appropriate, managing initiatives that facilitate School, Faculty, or University development;
- Acting as a role model for the University's expected leadership behaviours, promoting a culture of equality and inclusion, supporting colleagues, and upholding our sustainability agenda;
- Contributing to the academic development, leadership, and governance of the School, Faculty and University.

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 respective appointment.

Qualifications and skills

Essential

- A PhD in a relevant discipline;
- Demonstrated excellence in all aspects of student education, including research-led teaching;
- A sustained record of high-quality research and publications in an appropriate area of theoretical computer science, supported by external funding to support a world-leading portfolio of research;
- Experience in developing international research links and evidence of contributing to the development of research agendas and shaping your discipline nationally and internationally;
- A vision that promotes excellence in education and research;
- The ability to provide academic leadership both via your own work and through the support of colleagues;
- The ability to develop effective networks and collaborations through effective communication with colleagues locally;
- A commitment and willingness to contribute to a positive culture and atmosphere of the School and to work within the University's values of collaboration, compassion, inclusivity, and integrity.

Desirable

- A track record of effective team working, collaborative development, and proven interpersonal skills with the ability to liaise effectively with a range of stakeholders;
- The ability to think creatively and to anticipate trends and opportunities;
- The ability to collaborate effectively with research groups in other disciplines.

How to apply

You should apply for these roles 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.

In addition to your application please upload the following:

- A statement (no more than 4 pages) setting out your research vision and your approach to student education, indicating how your existing knowledge and experience equip you to carry out the role.
- A curriculum vitae, detailing your qualifications and experience and a list of publications.

You are also asked to provide details of three referees – please supply full names, affiliations, and e-mail addresses.

Contact information

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

Professor Kristina Vušković, Professor of Algorithms and Combinatorics
Email: K.Vuskovic@leeds.ac.uk

OR

Professor Dillon Mayhew, Professor of Theoretical Computer Science
Email: D.Mayhew@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Please note: If you are not a British or Irish citizen, you will require permission to work in the UK. This will normally be in the form of a visa but, if you are an EEA/Swiss citizen and resident in the UK before 31 December 2020, this may be your passport or status under the EU Settlement Scheme.

Faculty and School Information
The School of Computing is part of the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences, which forms a science and engineering hub for research and innovation. *The School is a consistently highly-ranked academic department with a vibrant research culture and a commitment to excellence in our teaching.*

With over 45 academic faculty members, the School offers a wide range of Bachelor and Masters programmes that cover Computer Science and its sub-specialisms, all featuring excellent connections with graduate employers, including a sector-leading degree apprenticeship provision. Our teaching also has an international outlook, including a dual-degree partnership with Southwest Jiaotong University in China and a fully-online MSc programme in Artificial Intelligence that attracts students from all over the world.

Our research spans the fundamental and the highly applied, across Algorithms & Complexity (AC), Artificial Intelligence and robotics (AI), Computational Medicine (CISTIB), Computational Science & Engineering (CSE), Computing in Biology, Medicine & Health (BMH), Distributed Systems & Services (DSS), and Visualisation and Computer Graphics (VCG).

Our research has a greater impact through working in multi-disciplinary teams, spanning engineering, science and health disciplines, large and small companies, and the public-sector.

We have a vibrant community of postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers, supported in part by a number of Centres for Doctoral Training including in “Artificial Intelligence for Medical Diagnostics and Care”, “Fluid Dynamics” and “Satellite Data in Environmental Science”. We have an outstanding track record of innovation and impact, across varied domains, from transport to biomedicine and health, and are supported by the University’s thriving innovation hub and commercialisation service.


The School of Computing is based in the Sir William Henry Bragg Building, a brand new development providing an integrated campus for Engineering and Physical Sciences and housing state of the art specialist facilities.

Further information is available on the research and teaching activities of the Faculty of Engineering & Physical Sciences, and the School of Computing.

A diverse workforce

As an international research-intensive university, we welcome students and staff from all walks of life and from across the world. We foster an inclusive environment where all can flourish and prosper, and we are proud of our strong commitment to student education. Within the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences we are dedicated to diversifying our community and we welcome the unique contributions that individuals can bring, and particularly encourage applications from, but not limited to Black, Asian and ethnically diverse people; people who identify as LGBT+; and people with disabilities. Candidates will always be selected based on merit and ability.

The Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences are proud to have been awarded the Athena SWAN 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

We are a campus-based community and regular interaction with campus is an expectation of all roles in line with academic and service needs and the requirements of the role. We are also open to discussing flexible working arrangements. To find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area visit our Working at Leeds information page.

Information for disabled candidates

Information for disabled candidates, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found on our Accessibility information page or by getting in touch with us at hr@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.