



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Chair in Comparative Planetary Atmospheres, Faculty of Mathematics and Physical Sciences / Priestley International Centre for Climate



Salary: Grade 10 (within professorial range - minimum £61,178)

Reference: MAPPC1000

Closing date: 16 June 2017

Full-time (part-time hours will be considered)

Chair in Comparative Planetary Atmospheres

Faculty of Mathematics and Physical Sciences / Priestley International Centre for Climate

Do you have an excellent research track record with the vision and drive to lead a strong interdisciplinary research team? Are you passionate about delivering world leading research and an exceptional student experience?

You will be an outstanding academic in the field of Comparative Planetary Atmospheres, undertaking world-class research based on your experience in the broad field of terrestrial and / or extra-terrestrial planetary atmospheres. Examples of areas in which you may work are: ocean-atmosphere geophysical fluid dynamics, including dynamical systems approaches; statistical modelling approaches to atmospheric processes, including managing model uncertainty; modelling that supports the interpretation of observational data; and the development of atmospheric chemistry-climate models. You will enhance and strengthen interdisciplinary collaborative research whilst contributing to the leadership and development of the [Priestley International Centre for Climate](#).

You will have a PhD / doctorate or equivalent experience in a relevant discipline, a proven track record in research and a demonstrated commitment to student education. You will also possess the ability to work collaboratively across subject areas and to establish links other disciplines and research groups.

In joining the Priestley International Centre for Climate and the [University of Leeds](#), you will become part of an internationally-focused University that provides all of our students with an outstanding education and experience and, at the same time, undertakes cutting-edge research of high quality, impact and significance. Increasing knowledge and opportunity in powerful combination is a defining feature of life at Leeds. This ambition is now underpinned by a major new investment plan by the University to deliver further academic development addressing the challenges of education and research across a broad range of disciplines. It is therefore an exciting time to join a University which has recently been awarded [University of the Year 2017](#).



Planetary science is a strategic research area at the University of Leeds. Members of the School of Physics and Astronomy are involved in most of the leading international observing facilities, and are playing key roles in planning the next generation (e. g. the Square Kilometer Array and Extremely Large Telescope). The School of Chemistry is world-renowned for laboratory studies of reaction kinetics under extreme conditions; the development of atmospheric chemistry-climate models with members of the School of Earth and Environment is another important area. Hydrodynamics and magneto-hydrodynamics is a major strength of the School of Mathematics, which is a key member of the EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Fluid Mechanics. The University has recently appointed four University Academic Fellows in the area of planetary research, as part of the “250 Great Minds” initiative.

What does the role entail?

As a Chair in Comparative Planetary Atmospheres, your main duties will include:

- Establishing and leading a world-class research programme achieving sustained high levels of research funding individually and / or in collaboration with others and maintaining high quality research outputs in leading internationally-recognised publications;
- Inspiring students through research-led teaching on undergraduate and postgraduate taught courses, taking a lead role in the development of modules and programmes and achieving high standards of student feedback;
- Promoting the discipline of Comparative Planetary Atmospheres and internationally winning prestige for both the discipline and the University. Representing the University externally, developing and maintaining networks and promoting links with Research Councils and external organisations;
- Providing a major contribution to the strategic academic development, direction and leadership of the Priestley Centre as well as making a significant contribution to the University through its governance structures;
- Supporting and mentoring less experienced academic and research staff to promote career development and the nurturing of academic talent;
- Attracting high quality postgraduate research students to the University and providing them with excellent supervision which supports timely completion and subsequent employability;



- Leading and delivering major initiatives and / or multidisciplinary areas of work which improve Priestley Centre, Faculty or University performance.

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

What will you bring to the role?

As a Chair in Comparative Planetary Atmospheres you will have:

- A PhD or other doctorate in a relevant discipline or equivalent research experience;
- The ability to lead research programmes of the type that will contribute to the research, innovation and impact agendas at national and international levels;
- An excellent track record of research outputs in appropriate areas of terrestrial and / or extra-terrestrial planetary research, meeting international standards of academic excellence, including a significant quantity that would meet the standard of 3* and 4* REF equivalent published research;
- Obtained sustained levels of external competitive or equivalent research funding individually and / or in collaboration;
- The ability to develop international links with other leading research groups or centres and / or evidence of effective engagement with and influencing national and international research agendas;
- The ability to work across subject areas, linking appropriately with other disciplines and research groups and lead significant components of multidisciplinary initiatives;
- An understanding of the principles of research-led teaching and a track record of integrating research with learning and teaching to deliver an excellent student experience, and the ability to lead the development of a portfolio of modules or courses;
- A track record of sustained delivery of ambitious and imaginative academic leadership both by own work and through the encouragement and stimulation of colleagues;
- A track record of effective team working and collaborative development;



- The willingness and capacity to take on a significant role in Priestley Centre development with the ability to think laterally, to be imaginative and to anticipate trends and opportunities;
- Excellent organisational and communication skills.

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 John Plane, Deputy Director for the International Centre for Climate, Professor of Atmospheric Chemistry

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Email: j.m.c.plane@leeds.ac.uk

Professor Piers Forster, Director of the International Centre for Climate, Professor of Physical Climate Change

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Additional information

A diverse workforce

The Faculty of Mathematics and Physical Sciences is proud to have been awarded the [Athena SWAN Bronze Award](#) from the Equality Challenge Unit, the national body that promotes equality in the higher education sector. You can find out more on our [equality and inclusion](#) information page.



Working at Leeds

You can find out more about our generous benefits package and more about what it is like to work at the University and live 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.

