

Candidate Information

Position:	Socio-Technical Transition Analysis Research Fellow
School/Department:	Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering
Reference:	19/107455
Closing Date:	Wednesday 5 June 2019
Salary:	£33,199 - £39,610 per annum (potential to progress to £43,266 per annum through sustained exceptional contribution)
Duration:	60 months

JOB PURPOSE:

We are seeking a highly-motivated post-doctoral researcher for a five year period in the field of Socio-Technical Transition Analysis to join the Sir William Wright Technology Centre (W-Tech) at Queen's University Belfast. As part of the Centre the researcher will support activities in a newly funded EPSRC Prosperity Partnership, StreetZero, aimed at exploring the implications of a move towards increasing electrification of bus vehicles. The researcher will work in a multidisciplinary team with researchers from vehicle engineering, civil engineering and policy to explore the consequences of a shift to a fully electrified public transport system on the complex technical, cultural, social, economic and behavioural interactions in the system. The researcher will develop models to understand the capacity the existing public transport system has for change, and explore how policy measures could be introduced to create opportunities for further development. This post offers an exciting opportunity for someone with a passion for working at the cutting edge of developing solutions for the next generation of urban mobility.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. To research methods of developing collaborative processes and a shared transition pathway which can successfully transition from one transport regime (high carbon) to another (low carbon).
2. Build and maintain a network of relationships on research and policy in relation to UK low carbon transportation.
3. Present regular progress reports on research to members of the research group or to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
4. Contribute to the work of the project as a whole.
5. To support the supervision of PGR students and other research staff within the W-Tech Centre.
6. Carry out undergraduate supervision/demonstrating/ teaching duties under direction.
7. Lead on or contribute to, decision-relevant outputs and activities including briefing papers, reports, presentations, workshops and public events.
8. Read and critically evaluate academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments.
9. Attend relevant conferences, seminars or training days as required for the post.
10. Carry out any other duties designated by a line manager and which fall within the general remit of the post including promoting cohesion within the project team and contribution to coordination of research activities across all its work packages and researchers.

Planning and Organising:

1. Plan own day-to-day activity within the framework of the agreed research programme.
2. Contribute to the planning of research projects, reports and publications etc.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Ensure research resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.
2. Provide guidance as required to support staff and any students who may be assisting with research.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Liaise with research colleagues and support staff on routine matters.

2. Develop internal and external contacts to develop knowledge and understanding and form relationships for future collaborations with industrial partners and OEMs.
3. Attend and contribute to relevant meetings, conferences, seminars, etc.
4. Work closely with other members of this work package, Professor John Barry and the PhD students assigned to this WP.
5. Maintain regular contact with other WP leaders and researchers.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. A social science PhD or post-graduate degree in transportation policy, energy politics/policy, climate change, environmental /sustainable development.
2. 3 years' relevant Experience of interdisciplinary energy, climate or transportation ore related research and publications
3. Knowledge and understanding of UK low carbon and energy policy drivers in relation to public transportation.
4. Strong analytical skills with the ability to produce high-quality analysis in a timely manner including ability to analyse and research complex ideas and apply appropriate methodologies.
5. Knowledge and understanding of climate and energy transition policy and practice.
6. Knowledge and understanding of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary/engaged research.
7. Knowledge and understanding of socio-technical transitions approaches, concepts and methodologies.
8. Excellent use of written and spoken English.
9. Excellent communication skills both written and oral, with the ability to communicate technical sustainability issues to different audiences and researchers from different disciplinary backgrounds.
10. Willingness to work as part of a large interdisciplinary team.
11. Ability to work independently with limited supervision as and when required.
12. Ability to act on own initiative and identify opportunities.
13. This project requires a degree of flexibility and the post holder may be required to perform work not specifically referred to above.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Successful track record of fundraising, including grant applications.
2. Ability to meet mobility requirements of the post.