

Job Title: Research Associate in Smart Technologies

Grade: 7

Salary: £39,906 to £46,049 per annum, pro-rata if part-time

Department: School of Computing and Mathematical Sciences

Hours/Contract: Full-time or job share, fixed term contract to 31 December 2026

Reference: 12739

Role Purpose

The post holder will perform research & development work in the broad theme of “6G applications”, and especially in eXtended Reality (XR) based applications. The post-holder will be embedded in a rapidly growing research environment and will have the possibility to interact with multiple leading industry and academic partners in the UK and Europe.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research Activities

- Lead the research and development of eXtended Reality (XR) based applications for a 6G use case.
- Deploy the XR use case over a beyond 5G testbed, and integrate components related to the use case testing and analyses from own research and from partners.
- Conduct experiments/trials, and collect, process and analyse the large sets of data from the experiments/trials.
- Produce a demonstrable system and conduct demonstration in different events.
- Represent the research team in project’s meetings, and lead the inputs to project’s deliverables.
- Disseminate results/findings in project’s events and broader community.
- Develop further novel research ideas and contribute to grants applications.
- Support the team in other related research projects.

Impact and Knowledge Exchange:

- To work, contribute and collaborate with current and potential industry and academic partners.
- To engage positively and pro-actively in research impact of the university.

Professional Development:

- Attend conferences, seminars and workshops to engage in work that supports your own professional development.
- Write, publish and present research papers in leading academic venues especially peer-reviewed journals.

Leadership and Citizenship:

- Provide mentorship, support and guidance to other team members, research staff, students, and early career researchers.





Internal and External Relationships

- Regular meetings with members of the programme research group.
- Meeting members of the department for critical discussion of the research and exchange of new ideas and approaches that might benefit the research.
- Liaison with external collaborators.

Planning and Organising

You will be required to effectively manage your time to plan your research activity and to deliver on the priorities of the project:

- Prioritise tasks within agreed work schedules;
- Plan for specific aspects of research incorporating issues such as deadlines, project milestones and overall research aims;
- Adapt daily and weekly plans to accommodate new developments and be flexible to the changing priorities of the research project;

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- Achieved a PhD in computing, telecommunication/electronic engineering, applied mathematics, or cognate discipline*
- Strong knowledge and proven experience in related Computer Vision technologies (at least one of the following: XR, AR, VR, or Digital Twinning)*
- Good knowledge of network applications*
- Related demonstrator experience*
- Research and software development experience*
- Research publication record*

Desirable

- Experience in externally funded projects
- Knowledge of AI/machine learning technologies

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- Willingness and ability to work with internal and external stakeholders.
- Evidence of continued development of subject expertise.
- Excellent communication skills – written* and verbal evidenced by the ability to communicate complex information.
- Evidence of working effectively as part of a team and the ability to work independently.
- Working towards independence and ability to be involved in collaborative research.
- Evidence and commitment to Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for yourself, and encourage commitment to learn and develop in others.
- Collegiate member of a research team.





***Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview**

Reason for Fixed Term Contract

The reason for the fixed term contract is stated in section 1.9 in the summary of contractual terms in your contract of employment.

Criminal Declaration

If you become an employee, you must inform your manager immediately, in writing, if you are the subject of any current or future police investigations/legal proceedings, which could result in a criminal offence, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.

Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are encouraged to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We encourage all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required. If supporting these activities is likely to affect your workload, please speak to your line manager in the first instance

University Values

Inclusive - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

Inspiring - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

Impactful - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

Freedom of Speech

The University is committed to upholding freedom of speech and academic freedom within the law throughout our recruitment processes. We ensure that all candidates are considered based on merit and suitability for the role, without regard to their lawful viewpoints or the expression of challenging or controversial ideas. Our recruitment policies and practices are designed to protect applicants from discrimination or adverse treatment on the basis of their opinions, and to foster an environment where open debate and diverse perspectives are valued as essential to our academic mission.

Equity and Diversity

We believe that equity, diversity and inclusion is integral to a successful modern workplace. By developing and implementing policies and systems that challenge stereotypes across all aspects of our work, we have a culture that recognises and values the diverse contributions of our staff which benefits everyone. Our strong values of inclusivity and equality support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equality, diversity and inclusion.

