

Job Title:	Associate Professor of Human Environmental Toxicology/Environmental Health
Grade:	9
Salary:	£59,139 to £66,537 per annum
Department:	To be determined by the research area of the successful candidate
Hours/Contract:	Full-time and permanent
Job Family:	Teaching and Research
Reference:	8336

Role Purpose

The role will provide a lead on research into the impact of environmental pollutants on human health for the post of Professor of Human Environmental Toxicology/Environmental Health. This is a new post to expand the scope of multidisciplinary Centre for Environmental Health and Sustainability (CEHS), founded in 2018 (<https://le.ac.uk/cehs/>) to consider mechanisms and chemical exposures. The postholder will be expected to play an important role in the Environment Theme in the Leicester National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) (<https://www.leicesterbrc.nihr.ac.uk/>), with excellent opportunities for clinical collaborations, and in the new NIHR Health Protection Research Unit (HPRU) in Chemical Threats and Hazards starting April 2025, with excellent opportunities for collaboration with HPRU partners, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and Health & Safety Executive. The ideal candidate will come from a relevant speciality e.g. human toxicology, environmental epidemiology, or biological chemistry, with a commitment to working in a multidisciplinary environment.

The successful applicant will have an international research reputation in their field and be expected to provide leadership, attract grant funding, attend and organise conferences and seminars, enhance impact activity and the research profile of the department and mentor early career researchers commensurate with level of seniority. They will establish an active and productive research group conducting research at an internationally competitive level and will be based within a suitable department in the College of Life Sciences.

The postholder will support the strategic priorities in the Department, College of Life Sciences and CEHS, including innovative teaching, reporting to Head of Dept and Director of CEHS. As a senior member of CEHS, they will help set Centre research strategy and take on some managerial responsibilities to support the Centre team and the Director. They will contribute to the Department and the CEHS' impact and engagement agendas and interact with stakeholders to help maximise contribution to societal wellbeing.

Working within the excellent interdisciplinary environment of the University, the research portfolio will be expected to enrich interactions between CEHS and other bodies, including host department, the Leicester NIHR BRC, the NIHR Health Protection Research Unit in Environmental Exposures and Health at University of Leicester (<https://le.ac.uk/cehs/hpru>) and the University's Institute for Environmental Futures (<https://le.ac.uk/research/institutes/environmental-futures>). The Institute has a focus on ecological and health impacts of climate change and there are close links with CEHS.

Within the wider research environment, the postholder will be encouraged to draw on established collaborations within our strongly REF-performing health research teams. In REF 2021 the University was ranked in the top 30 for research and placed second overall for Clinical Medicine. The University hosts outstanding researchers across a range of diseases including diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular, respiratory and infectious disease, respiratory and cardiovascular genetics, -omics, and with leading exposure scientists and geographers in the College of Science and Engineering. CEHS members are co-investigators in a British Heart Foundation Centre of Excellence at Leicester, an NIHR Research Support





Service hub led by University of Leicester and a NIHR Health Determinants Research Collaboration (HDRC) with Leicestershire County Council, providing a lead on environmental projects. We also have research projects working with air quality, housing and public health teams at Leicester City Council.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research

- Maintain a portfolio of internationally recognised publications that are world-leading in terms of originality, significance and rigour as appropriate to the field or discipline
- Develop the strategic direction in a research area and enhance impact
- Attract research income on an individual or collaborative basis, as appropriate to the field or discipline
- Provide high quality postgraduate supervision and attract research students to the University
- Engage in international research networks, partnerships and collaborations

Teaching

- Undertake research-led teaching on undergraduate and/or postgraduate taught courses
- Provide timely formative student feedback and assessment for coursework and examinations
- Contribute to the development, revision and updating of programmes at undergraduate and/or postgraduate, developing teaching techniques and materials
- Engage with scholarship and pedagogical research to underpin innovation at programme level in teaching delivery or assessment practice
- Provide a comprehensive support network for students, including personal tutor support, employability and open days, ensuring Department/School admissions processes are effective
- Work with students to provide world class teaching and learning opportunities and an excellent student experience, regularly collecting and responding to student feedback

Impact and Knowledge Exchange

- Pursue, develop and lead innovation and impact as determined by discipline benchmark to increase the external profile and foster changes in approach
- Engage in external knowledge transfer, enterprise and engagement activities which increase the external profile of the discipline and Department/School and have a beneficial impact outside the University
- Be recognised as an authority in the field, developing and maintaining an external profile as appropriate to the discipline
- Maintain scholarly activity and keep up to date with developments in the field





Leadership and Citizenship

- Represent the University through membership of significant external committees and groups
 - Contribute to management and administration processes and committee structures of the Department/School, College or University
 - Be involved in the recruitment, management and development of staff and act as a mentor and coach to colleagues
- Contribute to the development and achievement of Department/School, College or University strategies

Internal and External Relationships

- Proactively build networks and collaborations across the Department/School, College, University and the international research field, for critical discussion and exchange of new ideas and approaches. This includes CEHS, the Department and the Leicester BRC.
- Participate in Department/School, College and University wide seminar programmes to stimulate dissemination of information and collaboration.
- Represent the University at national/international committees, conferences and meetings.
- Work collaboratively with other members of the module delivery team and participate in teaching team meetings.
- Coordination with central University offices.

Planning and Organising

- Shape the strategic direction in the research area, developing clear long term (many months/years) plans for sustaining and enhancing the research programme.
- Long term planning and organisation of the delivery of teaching and assessment.
- Participate in the departmental operational planning process, supporting the strategic direction of the Department/School and College.

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- Completed PhD in a relevant subject area e.g. Mechanistic Toxicology, Environmental Epidemiology or Biological Chemistry*
- Expertise that complements or enhances existing strengths within the Department/School*
- A track record of outputs that are internationally recognised and world-leading in terms of originality, significance and rigour*
- Robust future plans for research applications*
- A track record of meeting the discipline benchmark for external funding through significant grant capture, consultancy arrangements and/or knowledge exchange projects*
- Involvement in relevant research and professional networks on a national and international level*





- A track record of successful supervision of PhD/MD students*
- Experience of teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate level*
- Experience of contributing to the management, development and delivery of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes*
- Evidence of external recognition of teaching practice through peer review, student, external examiners or external assessors feedback*
- Fellowship of the HEA or equivalent, or commitment to gain the appropriate category of HEA fellowship within 12 months of appointment*
- Evidence of leadership through membership of significant external committees and groups*

Desirable

- Successful completion of CPD*

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- High level of proficiency in English, sufficient to undertake research, teaching and administrative activities and to communicate effectively with staff and students*
- Ability to lead, motivate, develop and manage the performance of a team
- Ability to work independently and as part of a multi-disciplinary team
- Excellent interpersonal skills, to develop networks and form collaborations
- Effective presentation skills
- Ability to develop resource material to enhance teaching quality
- Ability to deliver classes using a comprehensive range of delivery methods, including lectures, seminars and tutoring
- Skills in coaching, mentoring and developing others, including students, early career researchers and colleagues
- Skills in pastoral care and motivation of students
- A commitment to the delivery of a high-quality service to students
- Ability to prioritise tasks within agreed work schedules
- Ability to plan, organise, implement and deliver programmes of work

Desirable

- Ability to teach classes using distance learning
- Ability to provide support to students via Blackboard

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

Academic Career Plan

Our approach to the career structure encourages a balance between breadth and specialisation. We highlight the central importance of research and teaching while encouraging all colleagues to develop their contributions to and achievements in the areas of impact, knowledge exchange, leadership and citizenship. Further information about the academic career plan is available here.





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 expected to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We expect all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required.

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

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 equity 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 equity, diversity and inclusion.

