



1 Advertisement

Post Title: Research Assistant

School/department: Life Sciences / EBE

Hours: full time or part time hours considered up to a maximum of 0.4 FTE /15 hours per week.

Requests for flexible working options will be considered (subject to business need).

Location: Brighton, United Kingdom

Contract: fixed term for 1 year

Reference: 20194

Salary: starting at £32,411 to £36,333 per annum, pro rata if part time

Placed on: 13 March 2023

Closing date: 27 March 2023. Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.

Expected Interview date: To be confirmed

Expected start date: As soon as possible

- *Exciting opportunity to join a fledgling organization focused on encouraging biodiversity, particularly insects, in urban areas.*
- *The appointee will be responsible for developing and running multiple projects for the Buzz Club <https://www.thebuzzclub.uk/>, a citizen science based organization. Buzz Club projects investigate ways to increase biodiversity in gardens.*
- *Liaising with volunteers and using social media to recruit new volunteers will be important parts of the job.*
- *The job holder will also be expected gather and analyse data and write reports*

Please contact Prof Dave Goulson, d.goulson@sussex.ac.uk for informal enquiries.

The University is committed to equality and valuing diversity, and applications are particularly welcomed from women and black and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts in Science, Technology, Engineering, Medicine and Mathematics (STEMM) at Sussex.

“Please note that this position may be subject to [ATAS clearance](#) if you require visa sponsorship.”

For full details and how to apply see our [vacancies page](#)

The University of Sussex values the diversity of its staff and students and we welcome applicants from all backgrounds.

Please note: The University requires that work undertaken for the University is performed from the UK.

2. The School / Division

Please find further information regarding the school/division at <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/lifesci/ebe/>

3. Job Description

Job Description for the post of: Research Assistant

Department: LifeSci

Section/Unit/School: EBE

Location: JMS

Grade: 6

Responsible to: Professor Dave Goulson

- With support from the Principal Investigator, develop research objectives and contribute to the planning of research project
- Conduct research activity under supervision of the Principal Investigator, and in collaboration with others.
- Assist with the analysis and interpretation of research findings and contribute to discussions on conclusions and outcomes.
- Contribute to the writing of reports and other dissemination activities under the supervision of experienced researchers.
- Contribute to the preparation of research ethics and data management strategies, under guidance from the Principal Investigator to ensure compliance with ethical approval and data protection legislation.
- Present information on research progress and outcomes to relevant bodies under the supervision of the Principal Investigator.
- Plan own day-to-day research activity within the framework of the agreed programme.

- Learn about the publication process and contribute to research outputs for publication in monographs or recognised high-quality journals, or performance/exhibition, as appropriate.
- Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism, and engage in professional development
- Attend and contribute to relevant School and project meetings.
- Undertake additional duties, as required by the Principal Investigator and/or Head of School.

Role-specific duties

- Work with the PI and staff involved in Buzz Club to develop and run multiple citizen science projects for the Buzz Club <https://www.thebuzzclub.uk/> . These will be projects investigating ways to increase biodiversity in gardens.
- Liaising with volunteers and using social media to recruit new volunteers.
- Gather and analyse data and write reports
- Organise and attend public-facing events to recruit more volunteers and disseminate results

This Job Description sets out current duties of the post that may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the post or level of responsibility entailed.

INDICATIVE PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- Under the supervision of the Principal Investigator, conduct experiments/research.
- Undertake research by preparing, setting up, conducting and recording the outcomes.
- Manage and analyse data, and prepare written reports and summaries.
- Maintain and store project files and equipment as per health and safety and data regulations.
- As part of career development, contribute to the preparation of journal articles based on the research with support from the Principal Investigator.

4. Person Specification

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

1. Normally educated to degree level in Biology/Ecology/Zoology, or other equivalent qualification, or relevant level of experience, as appropriate to the discipline
2. Good presentation skills, with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with colleagues and external audiences.
3. Ability to work independently (under supervision by the Principal Investigator), and as part of a team.
4. Ability to exercise a degree of innovation and creative problem-solving.
5. Excellent organisational and administrative skills.
6. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.
7. Excellent IT skills.
8. Ability to follow guidance of team leaders.

ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

1. Experience in running citizen science based projects
2. Demonstrable knowledge of insect ecology and conservation
3. Experience in managing personal data

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Experience of writing up and publishing peer-reviewed research
2. Excellent skills in data analysis in R
3. Knowledge of urban ecology