1. Advertisement

Post Title: Research Fellow in Energy Justice
School/department: School of University of Sussex Business School / SPRU – Science Policy Research Unit
Hours: full time or part time hours considered up to a maximum of 1 FTE. Requests for flexible working options will be considered (subject to business need).
Contract: fixed term until June 2021
Reference: 2559
Salary: starting at £33,797 and rising to £40,322 per annum
Placed on: 21 October 2019
Closing date: 20 November 2019. Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.
Expected start date: 2 January 2020

The Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU) is seeking a Research Fellow to assist with the Fuel and transport poverty in the UK’s energy transition (FAIR) project [https://www.creds.ac.uk/fair/](https://www.creds.ac.uk/fair/). The successful candidate will be based in the Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU) at the University of Sussex Business School, and will become a member of the Sussex Energy Group, interacting with a dynamic and inspiring community of other energy researchers.

The objective of the FAIR project is to analyse the interlinkages between fuel and transport poverty in the United Kingdom, taking on a combined energy justice and energy vulnerability approach. This is a new project including collaborators from the universities of Sussex, Edinburgh, Liverpool John Moores, Manchester, Oxford and Ulster, as well as external partners Green Alliance, the Energy Saving Trust and Cambridge Econometrics.

The ideal candidate would have a PhD and established track record in the field of energy social science research, or other relevant area. They would have experience in qualitative methods including research interviewing, interviewing vulnerable groups or communities, qualitative data analysis and qualitative data reporting.

Informal enquiries may be made to Dr Mari Martiskainen ([m.martiskainen@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:m.martiskainen@sussex.ac.uk)).

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.*
2. The School / Division

The University of Sussex Business School

The University of Sussex Business School was formed in 2009 and comprises the Department of Accounting and Finance, the Department of Strategy and Marketing, the Department of Management, the Department of Economics and the Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU). With a new home in the Jubilee Building, a state-of-the-art academic building at the heart of the campus, the Business School is a vibrant, ambitious and dynamic School with a strong research focus.

SPRU (Science Policy Research Unit)

Founded in 1966 by Christopher Freeman, SPRU was one of the first interdisciplinary research centres in the field of science and technology policy and management. Today, with over 60 faculty members, SPRU remains at the forefront of new ideas, problem-orientated research, inspiring teaching, and creative, high impact engagement with decision makers across government, business and civil society. Our research addresses pressing global policy agendas, including innovation challenges posed by the digital economy, the future of industrial policy, inclusive economic growth, the politics of scientific expertise, energy policy, security issues, entrepreneurship, and pathways to a more sustainable future.

SPRU researchers are driven by a desire to tackle real-world questions, whilst also contributing to a deeper theoretical understanding of how science, technology and innovation is shaping today’s world. A 2012 study published in the journal ‘Research Policy’ ranked SPRU second only to Harvard University in terms of its research impact in innovation studies. With a community of over 140 MSc and doctoral students from all over the world, SPRU is also well known for its high quality, research-led teaching programmes.

3. Job Description

Job Title: Research Fellow in Energy Justice
Grade: Research Fellow I, Grade 7
School: University of Sussex Business School
Location: Jubilee
Responsible to: Principal Investigator through to Head of School
Direct reports: n/a
Key contacts: Members of research group, members of faculty within the School and University.
Role description: Research Fellow I is an early career-grade research position. Post-holders will be expected to contribute to the work of the research team, and also to develop their research skills with support from more experienced members of staff.
PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. To engage in individual and/or collaborative research activity resulting in high-quality publications; and to develop research funding and knowledge exchange income individually or in collaboration with others, as appropriate, depending on the size and scope of the bid.

2. To contribute to School teaching activities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Research, Scholarship & Enterprise

1.1 Develop research objectives and proposals for own or joint research, at acceptable levels, with assistance if required.

1.2 Conduct research projects individually and in collaboration with others.

1.3 Analyse and interpret research findings and draw conclusions on the outcomes.

1.4 Produce high-quality research outputs for publication in monographs or recognised high-quality journals, or performance/exhibition, as appropriate, and contribute to the School's REF submission at acceptable levels of volume and academic excellence.

1.5 Contribute to the preparation of proposals and applications to external bodies, for example for funding purposes.

1.6 Individually or with colleagues, explore opportunities for enterprise activity, knowledge exchange income and/or consultancy, where permissible.

1.7 Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks and relevant external networks in order to form relationships and collaborations.

1.8 Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism, and engage in continuous professional development.

2. Teaching & Student Support

2.1 Undertake teaching duties, if required.

2.2 Assist in the assessment of student knowledge and supervision of student projects if required.

2.3 Assist in the development of student research skills, for example as part of a postgraduate supervision team.

3. Contribution to School & University
3.1 Attend and contribute to relevant School and project meetings.

3.2 Undertake additional duties, as required by the Principal Investigator and/or Head of School.

4. **Role-specific duties**

4.1 Develop further understanding of the linkages between fuel and transport poverty in the UK.

4.2 Undertake qualitative data collection, and subsequent data analysis, in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

4.3 Co-author publications on this research.

4.4 Participate in national/international workshops and conferences.

The Research Fellow will work closely on these tasks with Dr Mari Martiskainen and other FAIR Co-I’s.

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

1. A PhD or equivalent scholarly or relevant professional activity
2. Pursuing a line of independent research within a research group.
3. Publishing research (either from a recently completed PhD or new original research).
4. Other forms of externally recognised professional practice of creative output of a standing equivalent to regular publication of original research.
5. Initiating, developing or participating in links between the University and external bodies such as business and industry, the professions, community organisations and policy-makers.
6. Evidence of successful engagement in teaching or supervision.

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.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

7. Normally educated to doctoral level, or other equivalent qualification, or appropriate level of experience, as appropriate to the discipline (see role-specific criteria below).
8. Evidence of engagement in high-quality research activity.
9. Excellent presentation skills, with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.
10. Ability to work individually on own initiative and without close supervision, and as part of a team.
11. Ability to exercise a degree of innovation and creative problem-solving.
12. Excellent organisational and administrative skills.
13. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.
14. Excellent IT skills.

ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

15. PhD in an appropriate scientific area (e.g. energy social science research or other relevant social science research).
16. Experience of conducting qualitative interviews with vulnerable groups or communities in the UK.
17. Experience of collecting, analysing and reporting on qualitative data.
18. Knowledge of fuel and transport poverty in the UK.

**DESIRABLE CRITERIA**

1. Emerging track record of high-quality publications in reputable journals and other appropriate media of similar standing.

2. Experience of generating research or knowledge exchange income.

3. Experience of working with a wide range of external stakeholders.