School of Business, Management and Economics  
Department of Economics  
Research Fellow in the Economics of Brexit  
Full time, Fixed term to 31st December 2017  
Salary Range:  
  Grade 7: starting at £32,004 and rising to £38,183 per annum  
  Grade 8: starting at £39,324 and rising to £46,924 per annum  

Expected start date: January 2017

The University of Sussex invites applications for a Research Fellow in the Economics of Brexit in the Department of Economics. In June 2016, the University established the UK Trade Policy Observatory, which (UKTPO) which is an independent expert group that initiates, comments on and analyses trade policy proposals for the UK following Brexit, and offers training to British policy makers, negotiators and other interested parties through tailored training packages. The UKTPO has a high profile in public debate and good contacts with branches of government dealing with Brexit.

Over the past five years the Department of Economics has expanded considerably as a result of a strategic programme of recruitment aimed at intensifying the quality and depth of our established strengths in applied policy-relevant research. It seeks researchers with outstanding potential to work in a dynamic economics department which focusses on both research outputs and impact and attracts high quality postgraduate and undergraduate students.

Candidates should demonstrate potential to conduct high-quality research in the economics of international trade and integration and to be able to communicate it clearly in writing and verbally. They should also have a strong interest in trade policy and able to work closely with colleagues in a fast-moving and exciting area.

Prospective applicants are invited to make informal enquiries with Professor L Alan Winters (L.A.Winters@sussex.ac.uk), Director of the UK Trade Policy Observatory. For more details on the UKTPO see (http://www.sussex.ac.uk/bmec/research/uktpo) and on the Department of Economics see http://www.sussex.ac.uk/economics/.

Closing date for applications: 4 January 2017

Expected Interview date:  13 January 2017

For full details and how to apply see www.sussex.ac.uk/jobs

The University of Sussex is committed to equality of opportunity

2. Senior leadership and management

The Vice-Chancellor (Professor Adam Tickell) is the senior academic officer and, as
Chief Executive, is responsible to the University Council for management of the University. He is supported by an executive group which includes the three Pro-Vice-Chancellors, the Registrar and Secretary, the Director of Finance and the Director of Human Resources. The Heads of the Schools of Studies at Sussex report to the Pro-Vice-Chancellors.

The Registrar and Secretary heads the Professional Services of the University. In addition, under the University Statutes, the Registrar and Secretary is Secretary to the University Council. The Director of Finance reports to the Vice-Chancellor. The Director of ITS reports to the Registrar and Secretary, and the Librarian reports to one of the Pro-Vice-Chancellors.

3. The School / Division

The School of Business, Management and Economics, headed by Professor Steve McGuire, is a unique research-focused interdisciplinary school which takes a strong policy-directed view on business practices and on economic analysis, while also developing the underlying core disciplines. In addition to the Department of Economics it includes the Department of Business and Management and the Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU).

With such excellent foundations the School of Business, Management and Economics offers something distinctive and special to the future of business and management research and education in the UK and beyond. It is exceptionally well placed to provide leadership in the development and dissemination of sustainable business and management practice, informed by sound economic logic.

The Department of Economics

The Department of Economics is undergoing a continuing expansion as part of the University’s strategy of investment in the School of Business, Management and Economics. The Department has experienced an almost threefold increase in size over the past five years to a faculty of close to 30. This strategic growth has resulted in an invigorated department with some of the brightest and best early career economists and a strong core of experienced and respected senior academics providing research experience and leadership. This transformation is reflected in our REF2014 performance where we ranked 18th overall and in the top 10 for non-academic impact.

The Department of Economics at Sussex is committed to high quality teaching and research within a friendly academic environment. We have approximately 600 undergraduates on a variety of degree courses, plus thriving masters and research degree courses. Undergraduate student numbers have doubled in recent years with a coincident increase in quality.

We offer core undergraduate BA and BSc degrees in economics (the latter with a strong statistical/mathematical component), joint degrees with international development, international relations, management and politics, and this year we are introducing an undergraduate degree in economics and finance. The department is
also responsible for teaching of modules on interdisciplinary courses in international development, management studies and European studies.

The Department runs a popular stream of MSc courses in Economics, which share a core of key teaching in principles and econometrics. We currently run successful courses in Development Economics and in International Economics, which attract high quality applicants from all over the world. We recently introduced MSc degrees in International Finance and Economics and International Business Economics. About 40% of our undergraduate and over 70% of our postgraduate students are from overseas and enrich the learning environment in the Department. Our students have a good record of obtaining high quality jobs on graduation.

We provide a first-rate doctoral training programme focussed on providing high quality supervision, facilities and training to nurture excellent research economists. The award to Sussex of the ESRC-DTC in 2010 and the introduction of generous PhD studentships has been instrumental in attracting outstanding PhD students in recent years. The programme is heavily over-subscribed, enabling high entry standards to be set. We have around 55 high quality doctoral students researching on a range of topics, particularly in the area of development topics and international trade. Our doctoral graduates have a very good record of successful employment on completion of their studies, with many currently working in academia, business, government and international institutions.

The focus of research in the Department is on applied policy relevant research in our five core clusters: development, international trade, labour & education and quantitative economic history and environment & energy. Each cluster is headed by at least one senior professor and consists of a varying mix of early career researchers and more established faculty. The clusters are flexible with a collaborative culture that stimulates new and sustainable research ventures and the joint supervision of PhD students. We have policy links to a wide range of both international and national policy making bodies, such as the European Commission, the World Bank, World Trade Organisation, Department for International Development, Department of Work and Pensions, Low Pay Commission, Department of Energy and Climate Change, UN Development Programme, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and UNICEF as well as the international academic community. The depth of experience of this is brought to the teaching of our degree programmes. In particular we have a close association with the UK Department for International Development, where Alan Winters recently served as chief economist.

The following research clusters are indicative of the main areas of research strength in the Department:

1. **Development Economics**: Professor Andrew McKay, Professor Alan Winters, Professor Barry Reilly, Chari Amalavoyal, Sambit Bhattacharyya, Sonja Fagernas, Michael Lipton, Julie Litchfield, Sam Marden, Annemie Maertens, Alex Moradi.
2. **Environment and Energy**: Professor Richard Tol, Professor Anthony Heyes, Robert Eastwood, George MacKerron, Peter Holmes, Sambit Bhattacharyya
3. **Labour and Education Economics**: Professor Richard Dickens, Professor Richard Disney, Professor Peter Dolton, Professor Barry Reilly, Michael
Barrow, Matthew Embrey, Rocco d'Este, Iftikhar Hussain, Panu Pelkonen, Paolo Masella (on leave), Vikram Pathania, Shqiponja Telhaj.

4. **International Economics**: Professor Alan Winters, Professor Giordano Mion, Ingo Borchert, Michael Gasiorek, Peter Holmes.

5. **Quantitative Economic History**: Professor Andy Newell, Sambit Bhattacharyya, Sonja Fagernas, Alex Moradi.

We work in conjunction with other departments and institutes in the University, including the Research Programme Consortium on migration hosted by the School of Global Studies, and a number of collaborations (in research and teaching) with the world famous Institute for Development Studies (IDS) with whom we have strong links. The department also works with other departments within the University, including history and psychology.

We run a vibrant external seminar programme each week in addition to an internal seminar and a PhD seminar. The Department provides generous support for all research activities; including conference support, a general research incentive fund and relief from teaching and administrative related activities to support research.

**The UK Trade Policy Observatory (UKTPO)**

The UK Trade Policy Observatory (UKTPO) is an independent expert group that:

1) initiates, comments on and analyses trade policy proposals for the UK; and
2) trains British policy makers, negotiators and other interested parties through tailored training packages.

The Observatory is committed to engaging with a wide variety of stakeholders to ensure that the UK’s international trading environment is reconstructed in a manner that benefits all in Britain and is fair to Britain, the EU and the world. It aims to operate in seven priority areas:

- Overall Trade Strategy, including the internal effects of trade agreements and trade instruments such as the selection of standards, preferences and services regulation
- Monitoring the treatment of UK exports by others and UK de facto import policy
- Devising policies for UK trade with developing and least developed countries
- Negotiation support
- Institutional design
- Enforcement (including trade defence instruments; WTO rights)
- Training for negotiating teams, government and other interested parties.

The University of Sussex has the largest collection of academic expertise on the world trading system in the UK, with specialists on trade policy, trade law, trade politics and European law and economy. The team includes experts in economics, international relations and law. The UKTPO is in the process of becoming a partnership between the University of Sussex and Chatham House.
Details of the UKTPO’s activities can be seen from its web-site: http://www.sussex.ac.uk/bmec/research/uktpo

Its output to date includes eleven blogposts and eight Briefing Papers and it is extensively cited by the press and broadcast media. The purpose of this appointment is to maintain the flow of analytical work and commentary at the current high, research-based, level.

4. **Job Description**

**CORE JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Job Title:** Research Fellow in the Economics of Brexit  
**Grade:** Research Fellow I, Grade 7  
**School:** Business, Management & Economics  
**Location:** Jubilee Building  
**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 Undertake quantitative analyses of UK and other countries’ international trade, including, where necessary, compiling extensive datasets. This may include identifying suitable data, estimating and applying standard trade models such as gravity models and partial equilibrium analysis of particular markets.

4.2 Locate and analyse international trade agreements including of their relationship to international trade law and conventions. In particular, the post holder will be expected to develop familiarity with UK, EU and WTO trade practices.
4.3 Locate and analyse the regulations and conventions for the operation of specific markets with a view to identifying the consequences of and opportunities generated by Brexit.

4.4 Write and present clearly and precisely at each of several levels: in blog-posts and op-eds for non-experts, Briefing Papers for a policy audience and Working Papers for the research community.

4.5 Undertake training of officials and others as required.

4.6 Engage positively and constructively with UKTPO and other colleagues from related disciplines – notably law and international relations.

4.7 Contribute to analysis of, and conduct research on, trade policy issues surrounding Brexit, either independently or in collaboration with others.

4.8 Remain well informed about the Brexit debate with a view to identifying issues on which UKTPO expertise might be useful.

4.9 Engage with the press and other media as appropriate.

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

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

ROLE-SPECIFIC INDICATIVE PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- Cooperating with others in UKTPO to enhance its output and visibility.
Generating interesting ideas for UKTPO’s output of analysis and commentary.

Publishing in a variety of formats, as appropriate for a group seeking to have strong immediate and medium-term impact. This includes devising novel and interesting ways of presenting ideas, data and recommendations.

Initiating, developing or participating in links between the University and external bodies such as business and industry, the professions, community organisations and policy-makers.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

1. Normally educated to doctoral level, or other equivalent qualification, or appropriate level of experience, as appropriate to the discipline (see role-specific criteria below).

2. Evidence of engagement in high-quality research activity.

3. Excellent presentation skills, with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.

4. Ability to work individually on own initiative and without close supervision, and as part of a team.

5. Ability to exercise a degree of innovation and creative problem-solving.

6. Excellent organisational and administrative skills.

7. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.

8. Excellent IT skills.

ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

1. Proficiency in statistical data preparation and analysis.

2. Excellent knowledge of methods and techniques applied in the fields of international trade and trade policy.

3. Ability to properly handle confidential information with diligence and circumspection.

4. Ability to write clearly for different audiences.
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.

ROLE-SPECIFIC DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Familiarity with standard datasets on trade and trade barriers such as Comtrade, TiVA or ONS data products would be an asset.

2. Knowledge of modelling / computer programming such as GAMS or GAUSS would be an advantage

3. Evidence of good communication of technical subjects with non-technical audiences.

4. Interest in the practice of trade policy and in the trade aspects of the Brexit question.

CORE JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Research Fellow in the Economics of Brexit

Grade: Research Fellow II, Grade 8

School: Business, Management & Economics

Location: Jubilee Building

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, academics in the field in other institutions.

Role Description: Research Fellow II is a career-grade research position. Post-holders will be expected to take a senior role within a research team, be able to demonstrate an established research portfolio, and a growing reputation in their field of study. They will also be expected to provide support and guidance to less experienced members of staff.
PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. To engage in individual and/or collaborative research activity resulting in high-quality publications; and to contribute to obtaining research funding and knowledge exchange income as appropriate.

2. To contribute to School teaching activities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Research, Scholarship & Enterprise

1.1 Contribute to the development of School research strategy and themes.

1.2 Develop research objectives and proposals for own or joint research at acceptable levels.

1.3 Conduct research projects individually and/or in collaboration with others.

1.4 Assess, interpret and evaluate outcomes of research, and develop ideas for their application.

1.5 Produce high-quality research outputs that have impact in the field, 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.

1.6 Lead small research projects and/or identified parts of a larger project, including supervising the work of others and managing or monitoring a research budget.

1.7 Make presentations at conferences, or exhibit work in other appropriate events of a similar standing and identify ways to disseminate research outputs informally via the internet, the media and other forms of public engagement.

1.8 Identify sources of funding and secure or contribute to the process of securing bids.

1.9 Identify and secure opportunities for enterprise activity, knowledge exchange income and/or consultancy where permissible.

1.10 Actively build internal and external contacts, and play a key role in internal networks and relevant external networks in order to, for example, identify sources of funding, secure student placements, and build relationships for future activities.

1.11 Contribute to a relevant national professional body or recognised events.
1.12 Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism, and engage in continuous professional development.

1.13 Conduct risk assessments, and take responsibility for the health and safety of others, if required.

2. Teaching & Student Support

2.2 Contribute to teaching and learning in the School, including delivery of teaching if required.

2.3 Supervise postgraduate research students, for example as part of a postgraduate supervisory team.

2.4 Assist in the development of student research skills.

3. Contribution to School & University

3.1 Attend and contribute to relevant School and project meetings.

3.2 Mentor less experienced colleagues, supporting them in developing their research techniques, and advising on personal development.

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

4. Role-specific duties

4.1 Undertake quantitative analyses of UK and other countries’ international trade, including, where necessary, compiling extensive datasets. This may include identifying suitable data, estimating and applying standard trade models such as gravity models and partial equilibrium analysis of particular markets.

4.2 Locate and analyse international trade agreements including of their relationship to international trade law and conventions. In particular, the post holder will be expected to develop familiarity with UK, EU and WTO trade practices.

4.3 Locate and analyse the regulations and conventions for the operation of specific markets with a view to identifying the consequences of and opportunities generated by Brexit.

4.4 Write and present clearly and precisely at each of several levels: in blog-posts and op-eds for non-experts, Briefing Papers for a policy audience and Working Papers for the research community.

4.5 Undertake training of officials and others as required.
4.6 Engage positively and constructively with UKTPO and other colleagues from related disciplines – notably law and international relations.

4.7 Contribute to analysis of, and conduct research on, trade policy issues surrounding Brexit, either independently or in collaboration with others.

4.8 Remain well informed about the Brexit debate with a view to identifying issues on which UKTPO expertise might be useful.

4.9 Engage with the press and other media as appropriate.

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**

- Regular published output of original research at international level (referred journal papers, monographs, book chapters, text-books).

- Other evidence of original research contribution to the field, such as through invited conference contributions, membership of editorial panels etc.

- Evidence of the successful supervision of others within the research group.

- Evidence of contribution to the process of obtaining competitive/peer reviewed research support funding or collaboration in significant research projects with institutions of equivalent standing.

- Involvement in the creation, transfer and use of the results of research through a range of knowledge exchange activities.

- Success in transferring research results to commercial, professional, public sector or other practical use.

- Evidence of successful engagement in teaching or supervision.

**ROLE-SPECIFIC INDICATIVE PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

- Cooperating with others in UKTPO to enhance its output and visibility.

- Generating interesting ideas for UKTPO’s output of analysis and commentary.

- Publishing in a variety of formats, as appropriate for a group seeking to have strong immediate and medium-term impact. This includes devising novel and interesting ways of presenting ideas, data and recommendations.
Initiating, developing or participating in links between the University and external bodies such as business and industry, the professions, community organisations and policy-makers.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

1. Normally educated to doctoral level, or other equivalent qualification, or appropriate level of experience.
2. Evidence of significant independent contribution to the design and execution of research.
3. An emerging track record of publications in reputable journals and other appropriate media of similar standing.
4. Excellent presentation skills, with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.
5. Ability to work individually on own initiative and without close supervision, and as part of a team.
6. Ability to exercise a degree of innovation and creative problem-solving.
7. Excellent organisational and administrative skills.
8. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.
9. Excellent IT skills.

ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

1. Proficiency in statistical data preparation and analysis.
2. Excellent knowledge of methods and techniques applied in the fields of international trade and trade policy.
3. Ability to properly handle confidential information with diligence and circumspection.
4. Ability to write clearly for different audiences.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Experience of generating research or knowledge exchange income.
2. Experience of supervising postgraduate research students.
ROLE-SPECIFIC DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Familiarity with standard datasets on trade and trade barriers such as Comtrade, TiVA or ONS data products would be an asset.

2. Knowledge of modelling / computer programming such as GAMS or GAUSS would be an advantage

3. Evidence of good communication of technical subjects with non-technical audiences.

4. Interest in the practice of trade policy and in the trade aspects of the Brexit question.