The Helena Normanton International Postdoctoral Fellowships

Helena Normanton Research Fellow (International Development)

Full time, Fixed term for 2 years

Salary range: starting at £32,004 and rising to £38,183 per annum

Expected start date: September 2017

Applications are invited from postdoctoral researchers for two Helena Normanton Research Fellowships that will be hosted and sponsored by the University of Sussex. The fellowships are intended for emerging, world leading, independent researchers specialising in strategic priority research areas for Sussex. Priority research areas for the 2017 competition are Quantum Technology and International Development.

Named after the first woman to practise as a barrister in England and a founding donor to the University, these new fellowships aim to bring to Sussex the most promising independent researchers globally to work with our researchers in areas of particular strength for two years.

International Development at Sussex was ranked no.1 in Europe in the 2016 QS World University Rankings, second only to Harvard globally. Research and teaching in international development draws on interdisciplinary expertise from across the campus, foremost in the School of Global Studies and the Schools of Education and Social Work (ESW), Business, Management and Economics (BMEC), History, Art History and Philosophy (HAHP), Media, Film and Music (MFM) and in Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS). Sussex is home to the internationally renowned Institute of Development Studies (IDS), which makes an important contribution to the vibrant campus community engaged in research and teaching on International Development.

The appointed fellow will be allocated a personal research allowance, normally up to £10,000 for laboratory-based appointments, and £5,000 for non-laboratory based appointments.

Normanton Fellows will generally have been awarded their PhD within five years of the application deadline. This post is not automatically based in any one School or Department. The most appropriate base will be discussed at the interview stage. Outlines are provided below of International Development research in the Schools of Global Studies, Education and Social Work and Business, Management and Economics, although applicants could potentially be appointed to any School of the University (except the Institute of Development Studies, which is an autonomous institution). If applicants have a preference they can indicate this in their application form. A full list of Schools and Departments can be found here: www.sussex.ac.uk/aboutus/schoolsdepartments

For further enquiries please contact Anke Schwittay A.Schwittay@sussex.ac.uk.

Applicants are asked to attach an outline research proposal of no more than 3 pages to their application. This should specify how the research they intend to conduct at Sussex relates to their previous research and fits in with the Sussex Research environment.

We will particularly welcome applications from promising researchers from outside of the UK including the global south and/or those with strong links with non-UK Higher Education Institutions.
The University is committed to equality and valuing diversity, and applications are especially welcomed from women and black and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts at Sussex.

Closing date for applications: 7th April 2017

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

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

School of Global Studies

The School of Global Studies was established in 2009, and is one of the UK’s leading centres of excellence for teaching, research and debate on global issues. With over 80 members of academic faculty, an annual intake of over 500 students taking undergraduate degrees in Anthropology, Geography, International Relations and International Development, and over 400 Masters and research students each year, the School is large enough to create a diverse interdisciplinary learning environment, whilst maintaining a close and supportive environment for its staff and students.

The global standing and quality of the School’s research as well as its real world impact affirms the value of our critical, engaged approach and our commitment to research of the highest quality that makes a difference in the world. In recent years researchers in the School of Global Studies have also been awarded more than £10 million of external research income from a wide range of research councils and government bodies including: the Rockefeller Foundation, the Economic and Social Research Council, the British Academy, the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the Nuffield Foundation, the Leverhulme Trust, the Natural Environment Research Council, the Department for International Development, the Department for Innovation, Universities, and Skills, the Department of Energy and Climate Change, the European Union, and the United Nations.

The research agendas of our faculty are at once diverse, continuously evolving, and encompass a wide range of regional and thematic expertise broadly organized around the following themes:

- Understanding global flows, whether of people, knowledge, ideas, cultural practices, pollutants, diseases, goods and services, and how to govern them in ways that benefit the majority of the world’s people.
- Learning from **global transformations** in the global South and North, in urban and rural settings and in relation to such issues as climate change, global finance, ethical trade, health and sexual politics, religion, philanthropy, violence and insecurity.

- Contesting **global inequalities and exclusions** wherever they occur and whatever form they take, documenting the manifestations and consequences of discrimination and exclusion – whether on the basis of race, sexuality, gender, ethnicity, age, caste or class - contesting their effects and imagining alternative notions of rights, citizenship and belonging.

The School places particular emphasis on fostering the global engagement of students and staff, based on a strong network of partnerships with international centres of excellence in research and teaching, public bodies and the private sector. It also seeks to engage locally with schools, local authorities and community organisations interested in applying global insights to local-level problems.

The interdisciplinary International Development programme in the School of Global Studies draws together faculty from the three other departments in the school – Anthropology, Geography and International Relations – and if appointed to this school, the researcher’s administrative home would be in one of these departments.

**School of Education and Social Work**

**Centre for International Education**

Established in 2009, the School of Education and Social Work (ESW) at the University of Sussex comprises two long-established and thriving Departments: the Department of Education and the Department of Social Work & Social Care. The School’s over-arching strategic goal is to maintain and further develop a thriving and sustainable environment that contributes at the highest level to the disciplines of Education and Social Work. It has a commitment to the value of contributing to social justice at the global, international and national levels in terms of our research, teaching and professional education activities. The School comprises approximately 70 members of faculty across its two departments, with an additional 23 members of Professional Services (support) staff.

The Centre for International Education (CIE) is a research centre located in the School of Education & Social Work. The Centre for International Education (CIE) is a constitutive part of a cross university focus in Development Studies at Sussex. Established in 1989, CIE is also one of only eight University Research Centres in Sussex. Its members include an interdisciplinary research group based in the Education Department in Sussex with many others drawn from across the university as well as from a wider global network of associates and friends. CIE’s central focus is on education and development within the Global South and its diaspora. Our aim is to contribute to international and national debates about policy, practice and global relations through research, teaching and publications. Our work is driven by a philosophy that improved educational opportunities have important implications for social justice and equality, social and civic participation, improved wellbeing, health and economic growth. CIE is a centre of excellence, it is recognised as a leading centre in the field of international education and development with many of our members contributing to key global debates.

Members of CIE produce internationally renowned research through a wide range of approaches and a variety of methodologies. They have engaged in research and consultancy for research councils, international NGOs, national governments, philanthropic organisations, development agencies and donors. These include the ESRC, the EU, the

Our research is clustered around five research themes:

- Teachers and Quality
- Education, Governance, Planning and Finance
- Education, Access and Equity
- Gender, Identities and Citizenship
- Education, Conflict and Peacebuilding

These themes encompass all levels of education, including formal and informal systems of learning and development, from pre-school to university to community learning across public, private and non-government organisations. We are engaged in a wide range of research-related activities, from empirical research, evaluations, reviews and research capacity development and communication. As a research centre, we also have the expertise and experience in a wide range of methodological approaches to research and research-related studies. The Centre for International Education will provide a collegial, stimulating, internationally connected environment for the successful candidate and the foundations for a flourishing career.

School of Business, Management and Economics

The School of Business, Management & Economics (BMEc) is comprised of three academic departments, each internationally renowned for its research and teaching excellence. These are: the Department of Business and Management; the Department of Economics, and SPRU (the Science Policy Research Unit). The School provides leadership in the development and dissemination of sustainable business and management practices, informed by sound economic logic and a deep understanding of policy making.

Sussex has a long tradition of scholarship in international development. The School's interpretation of this history is a focus on the social bases for more sustainable forms of economic development. It is expected that the successful candidate would most likely fit with one or other of the research clusters within Economics or SPRU.

Since the 1970s, SPRU has been at the heart of international debates about the role of science, technology and innovation, in fostering sustainability and development. SPRU's research seeks to identify pathways to facilitate global transitions to a genuinely sustainable future, looking specifically at key areas such as energy, food, agriculture, and water. Our aim is to help organisations, industries and policy makers ensure that appropriate technologies and innovations are developed and deployed to produce positive effects. Historically, the study of the Economics of Innovation has acted as a central pillar within SPRU's diverse research portfolio, providing key theoretical and empirical tools for policy areas such as industrial policy, innovation policy and development policy. SPRU's current research focuses on advancing the economic theory of innovation, whilst also resetting the foundations of orthodox economics and advancing the fields of evolutionary and institutional economics. We seek to understand the structure and dynamics of innovating firms and industrial systems, how to enhance innovation capabilities of firms and other stakeholders in developed and developing countries, as well as how to steer structural changes towards sustainable growth.

The Department of Economics enjoys a prestigious international reputation for its applied research, which is primarily in the fields of development, labour, trade, and climate change.
In the recent Research Excellence Framework (2014) exercise, its research was ranked in the top 20 of economics departments with the UK, with the impact of its research ranked in the top ten. The Department’s research actively informs the syllabus content of our teaching particularly at level FHEQ Level 6 and Masters level (FHEQ Level 7). Sussex enjoys a worldwide reputation for its work on the analysis of poverty, inequality and economic development. Research in this field has been an integral part of the Economics Department since the establishment of Sussex University. Michael Lipton, a pioneer of development studies at Sussex, set up the Poverty Research Unit (PRUS) in 1995 (now the Centre for Poverty and Inequality Research). The main areas of our research in international development within the Economics department are:

- trade and development;
- agriculture and rural development;
- the measurement of poverty and inequality;
- the role of redistribution in poverty reduction;
- climate, climate change, climate policy and economic development;
- demography, land distribution and development in Sub Saharan Africa;
- migration, poverty and development in Africa and Asia
- nutrition, health, poverty, institutions and economic development under colonial rule in Africa, and;
- causes of the rise of living standards of the poor in 20th century Europe with a focus on UK in the areas of water, sanitation, infant mortality and fertility and nutrition distributions.

4. Job Description

JOE DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Helena Normanton Research Fellow
Grade: Research Fellow I, Grade 7
School: To be decided following interview
Location: University of Sussex, Falmer Campus
Responsible to: Head of School
Direct reports: n/a
Key contacts: Members of research group or department, members of faculty within the School and University.

Role description: Helena Normanton Research Fellows will generally have been awarded their PhD within 5 years of the date of application. Fellows are expected to pursue independent research beyond they doctoral stage whilst receiving early career training and mentoring.
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 (up to 60 hours per year).

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 Head of School.

4. Role-specific duties

3.3 To carry out original research in the area of International Development.

INDICATIVE PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- A PhD of internationally outstanding quality or equivalent scholarly or relevant professional activity
- Pursuing a line of independent research, possibly within a research group.
- Publishing research (either from a recently completed PhD or new original research) in leading publications.
- 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.

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.

5. 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. A PhD in a topic relevant to international development completed generally within 5 years from the date of application
2. Strong research and writing skills
3. Good people, presentation and communication skills

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Networks of researchers, practitioners, policy-makers and activists in the researcher’s own national context and internationally
2. A promising publication record that includes public engagement (i.e. articles for the media or other such material) as well as more academic publications
3. Research experience on a topic that offers a good fit with key interests for research in international development at Sussex
4. A critical perspective on international development that is informed by engaged research as well as engagement with development practice.

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