

## 1. Advertisement

**Post Title: Research Fellow in Energy Studies**

**School/department:** University of Sussex Business School, Science Policy Research Unit

**Hours:** full time or part time hours considered up to a maximum of 1.0 FTE, 37.5 hours

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

**Contract:** fixed term for six months starting September 2022

**Reference:** 8503

**Salary:** starting at £34,304 to £40,927 per annum, pro rata if part time

**Placed on:** 03 May 2022

**Closing date:** 13 May 2022 Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date. **Expected Interview date:** TBC

**Expected start date:** September 2022

**This vacancy is only open to those currently employed by the University of Sussex**

The University of Sussex Business School is seeking to recruit a Research Fellow in Energy Studies to support the newly launched ACCESS project. Advancing Capacity for Climate and Environment Social Science (ACCESS) aims to champion and coordinate social science to address key environmental challenges spanning biodiversity, sustainability and decarbonisation.

The Research Fellow will:

- conduct workshops with stakeholders to evaluate factors that influence successful collaborative working
- analyse, review and assess a range of methods to support the use of social science in interdisciplinary research, policy and practice;
- Manage data collection and evidence gathering with business and civil society actors in the space of interdisciplinary environmental social science
- Draft and write recommendations and articles for planners and academics

Essential criteria for the post include:

1. A PhD in a related area (e.g. energy social science research or other relevant social science research)
2. Knowledgeable about themes in interdisciplinary collaboration and research
3. Good general knowledge about UK energy policy
4. Proven ability to organise, undertake and analyse systematically in-depth qualitative interviews with a range of policy, practitioner and lay subjects to academic and ethical standards
5. Experience organising workshops with policy, practitioner and lay participants, and documenting and analysing workshops
6. Demonstrate an ability to write reports and blogpost for non-academic audiences, particularly policy-makers and think tanks
7. Experience presenting research to academics and policy-makers at conferences and workshops
8. Ability to use qualitative analysis software

Please contact Professor Sovacool [b.sovacool@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:b.sovacool@sussex.ac.uk) for informal enquiries.

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**

Please find further information regarding the school/division at [University of Sussex Business School : University of Sussex](#)

## **3. Job Description**

<b>Job Title:</b>	Research Fellow in Energy Studies
<b>Grade:</b>	Research Fellow I, Grade 7
<b>School:</b>	University of Sussex Business School
<b>Location:</b>	Jubilee Building, University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton, UK
<b>Responsible to:</b>	Principal Investigator through to Head of School
<b>Direct reports:</b>	n/a
<b>Key contacts:</b>	Members of research group, members of faculty within the School and University.
<b>Role description:</b>	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.

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### **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**

- 1. Conduct workshops with stakeholders to evaluate factors that influence successful collaborative working
- 2. Analyse, review and assess a range of methods (e.g., CECAN Complexity Evaluation Toolbox) to support the use of social science in interdisciplinary research, policy and practice
- 3. Manage data collection and evidence gathering with business and civil society actors in the space of interdisciplinary environmental social science
- 4. Draft and write recommendations and articles for planners and academics

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.

## **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 related area (e.g. energy social science research or other relevant social science research)
2. Knowledgeable about themes in interdisciplinary collaboration and research
3. Good general knowledge about UK energy policy
4. Proven ability to organise, undertake and analyse systematically in-depth qualitative interviews with a range of policy, practitioner and lay subjects to academic and ethical standards
5. Experience organising workshops with policy, practitioner and lay participants, and documenting and analysing workshops
6. Demonstrate an ability to write reports and blogpost for non-academic audiences, particularly policy-makers and think tanks
7. Experience presenting research to academics and policy-makers at conferences and workshops
8. Ability to use qualitative analysis software

## **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.