

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH OFFICER - SCIENCE TEAM

Postgraduate Research Service

ALC1492

CANDIDATE BROCHURE



CONTENTS

- 3 What makes UEA so special?
- 5 Our Benefits
- 6 The Role
- 8 The Person
- 9 Further Information including How to Apply
- 10 About the Research and Innovation Division
- 11 Our Values
- 13 Accolades
- 14 A Sustainable University
- 15 Our Campus
- 16 Norwich - City of Stories
- 17 Location



WHAT MAKES UEA SO SPECIAL?

The University of East Anglia is a publicly funded major UK research and teaching university. It was built to embody a radical new vision for higher education, where interdisciplinarity is crucial and excellence in both research and teaching is valued. UEA consistently ranks within the top quarter of universities in the UK for the quality of research and teaching.

As a major regional employer and cultural centre, we take our regional civic responsibilities very seriously and have kept our sights on the people and place we call home. In fact, we launched our University Civic Charter in October 2023; created from in-depth community engagement, renewing our commitment to the region as part of our 60th anniversary.

There are many things which make UEA special, not least of which is the community of staff and students that work and study here. UEA includes three Nobel prize winners, including Sir Paul Nurse and Sir Michael Houghton, and many fellows of the Royal Society and British Academy amongst our alumni and current staff.

Our campus is home to Sir Denys Lasdun's iconic brutalist architecture set in hundreds of acres of beautiful country park that includes a large broad (lake). In the spirit of Lasdun's ambition to inspire an anatomy of ideas, today, UEA is tackling some of the key challenges of the changing world. UEA's research combines disciplines

and breaks new boundaries across its priority research themes of climate, creative and health.

UEA is the place where global warming was first documented. Since the 1970s, UEA's Climatic Research Unit, and more recently Tyndall Centre for Climate Change (Headquarters hosted at UEA), have played a pivotal role in developing temperature records and climate models, contributing to the understanding of climate change, and informing global policy. Our Professors Corinne Le Quere, Rachel Warren and Robert Nicholls were recipients of Nobel Peace Prize (2007), awarded to Al Gore and the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) in recognition of efforts to increase public knowledge of anthropogenic climate change. Environmental Science and Global Studies at UEA continue to be a major powerhouse for research and teaching.

UEA is widely regarded as a pioneer in creative writing, having established the UK's first Creative Writing Masters programme in 1970. This renowned programme has since attracted and produced numerous successful writers, including Booker Prize winners such as Ian McEwan and Anne Enright, and Nobel Prize Winner Kazuo Ishiguro. In recent years, UEA academics have played a pivotal role in the discovery and presentation of the Gloucester Royal shipwreck (Norfolk's Mary Rose). Our iconic Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts is a major museum and arts research facility.



Health research at UEA not only embraces the Faculty of Medicine and Health but draws in research from both social and natural sciences. Research under this theme has made major contributions in the fields of healthy ageing, epidemiology and involving citizens (via our innovative Citizens' Academy) in improving health care outcomes. This theme benefits from close association with the other major research institutes on the Norwich Research Park; notably the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital and the Quadram Institute. The Norwich Cancer Research Network, and Norfolk Institute for Healthy Ageing, are examples of key mechanisms for delivery of real impact from health research at UEA.

UEA has been a major success over the last 60 years and looks forward with confidence to the next 60 years.

For an informal discussion about the post please contact Tracey Oak, Associate Director, Postgraduate Research Service via t.oak@uea.ac.uk

UEA is part of the Norwich Research Park

Norwich Research Park (NRP) membership locates UEA in one of the largest concentrations of research institutes in the whole of Europe – four independent internationally-renowned research institutes: John Innes Centre, Quadram Institute, Earlham Institute and The Sainsbury Laboratory; with the University of East Anglia and Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, supported and funded by The John Innes Foundation, The Gatsby Foundation, and UKRI Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council.

The NRP provides an ideal environment for collaborative use of infrastructure and facilities, with a single portal for academics and businesses to access the specialist facilities across the Park.

The Enterprise Centre is a regional business, knowledge and innovation hub, with workspace provision and supports over 80 businesses working alongside UEA staff and students in a dynamic and vibrant entrepreneurial community. On the wider NRP, there are dedicated laboratory and office spaces in the Innovation Centre and Centrum hosting over 600 staff within a total of 115 businesses and spinouts.



OUR BENEFITS

UEA offers a fantastic benefits package for staff. We recognise all our staff have different priorities and lifestyles so we are continually reviewing our offering to ensure there are benefits which suit everyone. Current benefits include:



Competitive Rates of Pay



30 Days Holiday



14 Additional Statutory and Customary days



Contributory Pension



Staff Development



Sportspark Discount



Research Support



Health and Wellbeing



Library



Campus Facilities



Care Leave Policies



Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts



Ofsted Outstanding Nursery



And much more!

Further information can be found on our [Staff Benefits page](#).

THE ROLE

The main focus of the role is to provide expert support and co-ordination of postgraduate research administration for applicants, students and academic colleagues, including PGR Directors and supervisors based within a University Faculty; provide supervision and management for the Faculty's Graduate School PGR Service Team (based within the Postgraduate Research Office); and to act as a point of specialist reference to staff and students on academic related, regulatory and administrative matters.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH SERVICE DELIVERY

- To supervise/manage the relevant Graduate School Team, based in the Postgraduate Research Office. The team is responsible for supporting all aspects of postgraduate research administration for the Faculty Graduate School.
- Support the Research Degrees Manager, Associate Director for the Service and wider Management team with planning and implementation of Service delivery.
- To support, train and develop members of the Graduate School Teams in the Postgraduate Research Office and other staff in the Postgraduate Research Service.
- To liaise with Faculty staff at all levels, including with Graduate Schools (or equivalent) leads, other University Services and Faculty/ local support staff and with external bodies as appropriate.
- To be responsible for admission procedures and processes, ensuring the prompt and accurate processing of applications and

liaison with University marketing and recruitment teams.

- To be responsible for monitoring the accuracy of information made available to applicants and students from Postgraduate Research Service, Faculty and School webpages and literature, and to contribute to information provision for applicants, prospective and current students and PGR Service and academic staff.
- To advise prospective and current students, staff and examiners on the interpretation and application of the University's Regulations and Code of Practice for Research Degrees and on standard funding regulations, referring to the Student Support Service and/or specialist services as appropriate.
- To be aware of the University's Regulatory frameworks, relevant Codes of Practice, policies and procedures, as they relate to research degree provision.
- To review Stage 1 Academic Appeals and Complaints, and research student concessions, as directed by Postgraduate Research Service management.
- To ensure the co-ordination of arrangements for allocating studentships and making payments to students and to monitor the relevant budgets, liaising as appropriate with other University Services and the Research Degrees Manager and internal Doctoral Training Partnership colleagues, as appropriate.
- To co-ordinate the administration of student lifecycle events and processes such as registration, induction, Probation and progress review, thesis submission and assessment, as well as offering administrative advice for personal and professional development training and other doctoral training programmes for research students.
- To ensure that accurate and up-to-date information is maintained on application and student record systems and in student files.

THE ROLE (CONTINUED)

- To contribute to the development and maintenance of processes and systems for postgraduate research applicant and student administration.
- To support the Associate Dean (PGR) and School PGR Directors within the relevant Faculty, particularly with regard to supervisor training, and to act as Secretary to the Faculty Graduate School Executive (or equivalent) and similar committees at Faculty level.
- To prepare statistical returns/reports for internal and external bodies and other papers for University Committees, Policy/ Working Groups, Faculty Committees as may be required.

MANAGEMENT OF PEOPLE, RESOURCES AND FINANCE

- To support, train and develop members of the relevant Graduate School Team in the Postgraduate Research Office and other staff in the Postgraduate Research Service.
- To manage and support members of the relevant Graduate School Team on a day-to-day basis, including team and individual development and appraisal.
- To assist with the recruitment and selection of administrative and clerical staff, assisting with the identification of training needs and to supervise performance.
- To induct and train new staff in respect of University and legal regulations, policies, and PGR Service procedures.
- To work with other Postgraduate Research Officers and Service Managers to support development and planning within the Service, taking account of regular, developmental, and unplanned activities and staff workloads.
- Work with other PGR Officers and Service Managers to identify areas where common processes can be introduced across the Service.

- To work with other Postgraduate Research Officers and Service Managers to identify opportunities to streamline /harmonise practice and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of processes across the Service.
- To encourage your team to identify opportunities to improve processes within their remit and if appropriate investigate these ideas and share them with the wider Service.
- To maintain an appropriate professional office environment.

UNIVERSITY AND OTHER GENERAL DUTIES

- To undertake any other duties appropriate to the grading of the post which may be required by the Research Degrees Manager and/or the Associate Director of Postgraduate Research Services and/or PGR Service Managers.
- Working with Service Managers, act as lead Officer for the introduction and Service implementation and training of new University systems/requirements, or the Service wide introduction of improved processes and ways of working.

THE PERSON

EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Two A levels at Grades A-E and five GCSEs at Grades A-C (including Mathematics and English), or equivalent qualification or experience (E)
- Recent experience of working in a similar role (E)
- Experience of co-ordinating office activities and developing and supervising processes (E)
- Experience of supervising a team and prioritising tasks (E)
- Educated to degree level (D)
- Supervisory qualification (D)
- Experience within a Postgraduate Research Administration Office (D)

SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- Proven IT skills in Microsoft Office packages (E)
- Knowledge of postgraduate research administration or recruitment, admissions, and programmes from a similar educational environment to be able to act as a point of specialist reference (E)

- Proven communication skills, with the ability to work sensitively to accommodate the needs of different people (E)
- Ability to compose concise, grammatically correct, and fit-for-purpose documents and reports (E)
- Presentation skills (E)
- The ability to prioritise tasks to meet deadlines and objectives (E)
- The ability to research, gather and process information, analyse and synthesise data, interpret results and recommend action (E)
- Willingness to undertake continued professional development and training and apply skills learnt (E)
- Experience with SITS/ Target X or similar HEI systems (D)
- Experience with basic process review, improvement and optimisation of administrative processes (D)

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- Flexible approach with a willingness to work additional hours at peak times (E)

Essential Requirements (E) are those, without which, a candidate would not be able to do the job.

Desirable Requirements (D) are those which would be useful for the post holder to possess and will be considered when more than one applicant meets the essential requirements.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The post is available from 1 October 2024 on an indefinite full-time basis.

Salary will be £37,099 to £44,263 per annum on Grade 7 on the single salary spine.

Relocation expenses are reimbursable under certain conditions.

Place of Work - The University is supporting a hybrid-working pilot of at home and on campus 'hybrid' working for many roles.

The PGR Service operates a hybrid model. The role holder is expected to work on-campus with their team on Mondays and Thursdays, as well as at least one other flexible day on campus. You can vary this day based on workload, attendance at in-person PGR Service meetings, training or events. If preferred the possibility of full-time on campus can be discussed during interview.

If successful you will be asked to show evidence of right to work in the UK prior to any formal offer being made. Non-British and non-Irish nationals entering the UK to undertake employment or who are currently in the UK will have to meet eligibility criteria under the points-based immigration system. The University may be able to provide sponsorship under the Skilled Worker route if relevant criteria are met. Please note, due to the complexities of the immigration system, Skilled Worker visa sponsorship is not guaranteed for every role. If you would like further information about whether this role is eligible for visa sponsorship, please contact staff.visacompliance@uea.ac.uk

The post is superannuable under the Universities Superannuation Scheme and there is an annual holiday entitlement of 30 days plus statutory (8 days) and customary (6 days) holidays. The University is committed to creating an environment where the health, welfare and safety of all students and staff is of paramount importance. The University's Safeguarding Policy addresses both child protection and safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults within the work of the University. Appointment will be subject to satisfactory pre-employment checks, which may include an Occupational Health assessment.

Information on the benefits of working at UEA can be found at <https://www.uea.ac.uk/about/working-at-uea>.

If you require the information contained within this candidate brochure in a different format please email staff.recruitment@uea.ac.uk

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for this vacancy, please follow the online instructions at: <https://vacancies.uea.ac.uk/>

The closing date for this role is 11:59pm on **Wednesday 24 July 2024**.

Please note that the application form contains an Equal Opportunities section which must be completed. The Equal Opportunities information will not be made available to the selection panel and will not form any part of either the short-listing or decision making process.

It is anticipated that presentations and interviews will take place on **Wednesday 14 August 2024** and if you have not heard by this date please assume you have not been shortlisted on this occasion.

Reasonable travel and incidental expenses incurred in attending the interview will be reimbursed (please ensure that you keep all receipts). Please note that if you are offered a post and decline the offer, travel and incidental expenses will not be reimbursed.

ABOUT THE DIVISION

The Research and Innovation Division (RID) incorporates two service teams:

- Postgraduate Research Service
- Research and Innovation Services

The Postgraduate Research (PGR) Service supports the UEA Doctoral College and manages the administration of research degrees at the University of East Anglia and Norwich Bioscience Institutes.

The Postgraduate Research Service supports provision for postgraduate researchers and their supervisors by:

- Supporting Postgraduate Research enquiries, applications, student lifecycle, compliance and assessment
- Managing Doctoral Training Partnerships and Programmes including professional doctorates
- Working with academic colleagues to continuously improve the environment for postgraduate researchers
- Bidding for new funding and developing international partnerships.

Research and Innovation Services support the lifecycle of research and innovation activity by:

- Supporting and managing the administration for all research, training and consultancy grant applications and awards
- Advising and supporting academics in their research and innovation activities
- Supporting research integrity
- Investigating research misconduct
- Managing relationships with a range of funders, partners and organisations
- Supporting the work of the University's Research and Innovation Executives
- Co-ordinating REF and HEIF submissions and associated activity
- Providing management information to support research and innovation
- Managing UEA's Current Research Information System (Pure)
- Linking with external organisations in support of RID/UEA activity.



OUR VALUES

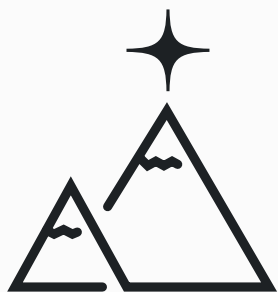
Shaped by staff, our UEA values represent a core set of standards for how we behave as an employer, drive excellence in teaching, learning and research, and collaborate as an anchor institution in our local community.

From tackling global challenges, striving for student and staff success, and creating a vibrant inclusive environment, our values are what unite us.

- ✦ AMBITION
- ✦ COLLABORATION
- ✦ EMPOWERMENT
- ✦ RESPECT



OUR VALUES (CONTINUED)



AMBITION

We are ambitious for our future success.

We are forward-thinking and brave in our approach and decisions. We make space for innovation and creativity, seizing opportunities that are responsible and sustainable. We are ambitious for the advancement of education and research.



COLLABORATION

We are collaborative in our approach.

We work together with shared purpose. We build connections, share ideas and develop new networks. We champion our regional, national and global relationships and demonstrate that together we can achieve greater goals and positively influence the world around us.



EMPOWERMENT

We empower ourselves and each other.

We develop ourselves and others, trusting people to make decisions based on their expertise and knowledge. We continually improve systems and processes to support us in working in an agile and efficient way.



RESPECT

We respect each other.

We treat everyone with respect and dignity. We value diversity and foster a community where people can express different thoughts and views. We are open to challenge, so we can learn and improve. We encourage a positive, inclusive environment where everyone has opportunities to fulfil their potential.

ACCOLADES

- Queen's Anniversary Prizes for Higher and Further Education have been awarded to UEA for international development studies (2009), creative writing (2011) and environmental sciences (2017). Notable alumni include Sir Paul Nurse (1973, Nobel Prize for Medicine 2001), Kazuo Ishiguro (1980, Nobel Prize for Literature 2017), Michael Houghton (1972, Nobel Prize for Medicine 2020) and Sarah Gilbert (1983) who led the Oxford University team to develop a COVID-19 vaccine, approved in 2020.
- Our Doctoral College, established in 2018, hosts six Doctoral Training Partnerships and integrates Faculty and School provision for 1600 Postgraduate Research Students (including those from across the Norwich Research Park), enabling collaboration and innovation.
- We recognise our global impact and were one of the first universities to declare a climate and biodiversity emergency in June 2019. Our sustainable campus, including over 50 acres of environmentally valuable parkland, is constantly evolving with ambitions to be 100% net zero by 2045 or sooner.
- UEA is a University of Sanctuary, an accreditation given to universities that show an ongoing commitment to creating a welcoming culture of inclusivity and awareness.
- UEA was awarded the Silver Athena SWAN Award in 2019, and all our Schools hold awards at Bronze or Silver.

A vibrant place to study, learn and work, UEA is a very special place.



A SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITY

At UEA, we are now working to create a university that will be even better in the future, and we are working to achieve net zero carbon by 2045 (or earlier). Our Sustainable Ways vision is one of a resilient university – where consumption is efficient and self-generated energy supports low carbon goals, supported by a vibrant community of world-leading researchers and inspired graduates.

At a basic level, our sustainable development means that we try to balance the ‘three pillars’ of environmental, economic and social elements.

We challenge our environmental impact through on-site energy generation and a district heating and cooling network, reducing our reliance on grid electricity and therefore fossil fuels. We promote and use recycled and ‘eco’ products such as biological cleaning materials. We champion local suppliers and ethical causes, including Fairtrade and vegan products. We seek to ensure value for money in a holistic, whole-life costing sense in our new buildings and procurement contracts.

OUR INITIATIVES

Central campaigns, such as holiday shut-downs or awareness day events, support a whole-University approach to energy saving and other initiatives.

Follow us on Twitter [@SustainableUEA](https://twitter.com/SustainableUEA)



OUR CAMPUS

UEA is based on a campus that provides top quality academic, social and cultural facilities to over 17,000 students.

Although located in 320 acres of rolling parkland, virtually no part of the campus is more than a few minutes' walk from anywhere else, so everything is close at hand – the library, nursery, health centre, supermarket (incorporating a post office), banking facilities and restaurants. Amongst the striking buildings is the UEA's Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, which contains the Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Collection – one of the greatest art collections formed in Europe during the 20th Century.

The University has invested in new learning and teaching and research spaces, including a celebrated new Enterprise Centre that underpins its commitment to promoting student enterprise and entrepreneurship.

Sport and Recreation plays a major part in the life of the University of East Anglia, centred around the major Sportspark facility which is one of the most successful community sport facilities in the UK. This accessible and affordable facility provides a diverse range of activities, and incorporates a 50m Olympic size swimming pool, indoor climbing wall, coaching resource centre and sports injury clinic.



NORWICH

A CITY OF STORIES

The city's motto is 'A fine city' and its strong cultural heritage has seen Norwich maintain the best of its historical character whilst developing to become one of the most vibrant and attractive cities in Europe. Norwich offers miles of riverside walks and cycle ways, and a unique collection of 1930's parks. The city is surrounded by beautiful countryside and within easy reach of the stunning Norfolk coast.

Norwich is a UNESCO World city of Literature, the first in the UK, as well as being one of the newly named Tech Cities recognising the growth of digital businesses in the region. The most prominent high-rise building, apart from the castle, is the magnificent 11th century cathedral, which still dominates the skyline. The city's medieval centre of cobbled streets remains largely intact, but there is still space for modern buildings such as the city's centrepiece, the Forum, which is a striking piece of contemporary architecture. The glass front overlooks the colourful open-air market (one of the largest in the country) and reflects the city in all its diversity.

The city is consistently rated as one of the top ten shopping venues in the UK. Norfolk and Suffolk attract thousands of visitors each summer. The famous Norfolk Broads are among the most important wetlands in Europe and a haven for rare plants, wildlife and insects. The Broads attract holidaymakers who come to navigate the intricate natural network of waterways formed by the Rivers Bure, Yare and Waveney and their tributaries.

For further information about UEA's excellent facilities, staff benefits, picturesque campus and the UEA working environment, please visit the 'Careers at UEA' microsite <https://www.uea.ac.uk/about/working-at-uea>. Additional information about living and working in the city of Norwich can be found at <https://www.workinnorwich.co.uk/>



If there is another city in the United Kingdom with a school of painters named after it, a matchless modern art gallery, a university with a reputation for literary excellence which can boast Booker Prize-winning alumni, one of the grandest Romanesque cathedrals in the world, an extraordinary new state-of-the-art public library then I have yet to hear of it. Norwich is a fine city. None finer.

STEPHEN FRY



LOCATION

Some cities you've heard of, others you have to discover. Norwich is one of the most beautiful, modern historic cities in Britain. It's a city that celebrates the independent, stimulates creativity, promotes change and encourages diversity.

UEA is a campus university located 3 miles from the centre of Norwich. Situated in the heart of Norfolk, which means it's an ideal location to explore Norwich and beyond.

BY RAIL

LONDON • 2 HOURS

CAMBRIDGE • 1 HR 15 MINS

BIRMINGHAM • 4 HOURS

Many European cities (including Paris and Amsterdam) easily accessible by train

BY ROAD

KINGS LYNN • 1 HOUR

CROMER • 45 MINUTES

SOUTHWOLD • 1 HOUR

BY AIR

NORWICH AIRPORT • 20 MINUTES

STANSTED AIRPORT • 2 HOURS

London is a major airline hub and all main international destinations are easily accessible



An internationally renowned university, UEA is ranked in the UK Top 30 (The Times/Sunday Times 2024, Guardian University Guide 2023 and Complete University Guide 2023) and the World Top 50 (Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2023), where it ranks in the World Top 100 for research citations (Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2023), reflecting the international excellence of its research environment. The University holds UK Teaching Excellence Framework Silver status.

Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Wellbeing

The University is committed to diversifying its workforce and to the wellbeing of all our staff. For example, we already hold an Athena Swan Silver Institutional Award in recognition of our advancement towards gender equality. Further details on our broader Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Wellbeing work can be found on our [website](#).

