

# STUDENT INFORMATION ADVISER

Student Information Zone

SC4672

**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 Student Information Zone (SIZ)
- 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 Chloe Kiggins, Student Information Zone Manager via [c.kiggins@uea.ac.uk](mailto:c.kiggins@uea.ac.uk) or 01603 597580.

## 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



20 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 Student Information Adviser will provide information, advice, and guidance in a proactive and agile approach to UEA students in person, online and by telephone.

Student Information Advisers will resolve student problems where possible and will offer signposting to specialist departments and agencies where appropriate and necessary.

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

### ADVICE SERVICE

- To provide student-centred advice, guidance and support to prospective and current students, covering a wide range of often complex issues, utilising comprehensive knowledge of University regulations and latest government legislation.
- To maintain an awareness and understanding of University regulations, policies, and procedures where they impact on the student experience. For example, Supporting Students in Crisis, Extenuating Circumstances, General Regulations for Students and Postgraduate Taught / BIM Award Regulations.
- To maintain an excellent working knowledge of key University departments and services together with all relevant procedures and processes in order to provide an efficient and effective service and convey accurate and timely guidance.
- Taking a proactive approach to responding to enquiries, exercising judgement in determining whether enquiries or problems can be resolved without reference to colleagues or whether onward referral is appropriate and communicating effectively with other service areas to ensure effective referral of enquiries.
- Providing first-line advice on key learning and teaching processes including coursework, examinations, marking, extensions, appeals, courses, modules, placement, results, and reassessment.
- Providing first-line advice on the range of services available in Student Services and explaining to students how to access these services. For example, support for students with disabilities, including reasonable adjustments, assessment arrangements and DSA, how to access wellbeing support, how to apply for hardship funds and emergency loans, how to access the Student Life team and the University's online Report and Support service, how to access support from the Learning Enhancement Team, how to access Visa advice and support for students living in residences.
- Investigating and resolving student coursework submission errors on Blackboard and Turnitin in "real time" so that the student can submit their coursework by the deadline, referring technical errors to the relevant team for resolution.
- A commitment to customer service excellence, continuous professional development, and the desire to understand the work of a complex and broad range of services.
- To promote team working and the sharing of good practice within the SIZ while also developing and maintaining professional relationships of respect, trust and support with other University staff who interact with the SIZ.
- To maintain timely and accurate records on the student records system and/or the student case management system, including actioning any changes to records such as name changes and extensions to access.
- Producing bespoke letters for students when a self-service solution is not available and completion of student forms when an official University signature / stamp is required.

## THE ROLE (CONTINUED)

- To support in the maintenance of the relevant social media and internal / external website pages for the Student Information Zone.
- To provide drop-in services around campus, as required.

## COMMUNICATIONS

- To deal sensitively with a diverse range of individuals, whilst abiding by the University confidentiality and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) policies.
- To be a clear, effective, and patient communicator to students both verbally (in person and by telephone) and in writing (Live Chat and email).
- Presenting a positive image of the University through a customer focussed approach, tailoring messages according to the needs of the individual.

## PROCESS AND SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT

- To provide input to the continuous improvement of the service by identifying opportunities- for more effective working practices within the SIZ.

## OTHER DUTIES

- To represent the Student Information Zone Team at particular events, such as Open Days, and Arrivals events, some of which take place outside of the usual working hours.
- To undertake any other duties commensurate with the grade of the post as assigned by the Student Information Zone Manager.

## EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, HEALTH AND SAFETY AND STRATEGY

- A strong commitment to the principles and practice of equality and diversity and a commitment to inclusion in Higher Education.
- Co-operate with UEA in ensuring, as far as is necessary, that Statutory Requirements, Codes of Practice, University Policies and health and Safety arrangements are complied with.

## SPECIAL CONDITIONS

- A flexible approach to working patterns, to manage fluctuating demand.

This is not intended as an exhaustive list of duties or a restrictive definition of the post but rather should be read as a guide to the main priorities and typical areas of activity of the post holder. These activities are subject to amendment over time as priorities and requirements evolve and as such it may be amended at any time by the line manager following discussion with the post holder.

# THE PERSON

## EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- A good standard of education with a minimum of five passes at GCSE at Grades A-C (including Mathematics and English) or equivalent or higher qualifications (E)
- Substantial proven recent experience of providing advice, guidance or support to adults or young adults which may be in a welfare educational, administrative, or other equivalent and transferable setting (E)
- Experience of using a corporate record system or database to accurately maintain information (E)
- Experience of working effectively in a team, acting as a source of advice and guidance for service users, negotiating and prioritising workloads to meet deadlines (E)
- Experience of providing excellent customer service, meeting, and exceeding the expectations of service users (E)
- Demonstrable experience of utilising social media in an organisational setting (E)

## SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- Experienced user of Microsoft Outlook, Word, Excel, and PowerPoint (E)
- Excellent oral, written and interpersonal skills with ability to deal face-to-face, via telephone and email with individuals from a variety of backgrounds, culture and nationalities (E)
- Ability to present information clearly and accurately (E)

## PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- Sensitivity to diversity, experience of cross-cultural communication and providing services to people from a variety of cultural backgrounds (E)
- Commitment to high quality delivery, equal opportunity, and confidentiality (E)
- Ability to work flexibly and independently as well as contribute effectively to teamwork (E)
- Ability to listen with empathy, dealing sensitively with a wide range of individuals (E)
- Demonstrable evidence of emotional resilience and ability to work calmly under pressure (E)

## SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- Subject to receipt of an Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure Barring Service (E)
- Due to peaks of activity, the role holder may be restricted from taking annual leave at certain times of the year (E)
- A flexible approach to work, with a willingness to undertake additional hours at times of peak activity. This may include evening and weekend working, for example registration weekend in September (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 19 August 2024 on an indefinite full-time basis.

Salary will be £22,681 to £24,533 per annum, on Grade 4 on the single salary spine.

**Place of Work** - The University is strongly committed to providing an excellent student experience and research environment, and it is expected that all staff will be available on campus to carry out their duties during their working week in support of these goals.

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](mailto:staff.visacompliance@uea.ac.uk).

The post is superannuable under the Group Personal Pension and there is an annual holiday entitlement of 20 days plus statutory (8 days) and customary (6 days) holidays, pro rata for part-time. 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 and a criminal record check at Enhanced level from the Disclosure and Barring Service (which you will be required to pay for).

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](mailto: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 **Friday 5 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 interviews will take place in person on **Monday 22 July 2024** and if you have not heard by this date please assume you have not been shortlisted on this occasion.

Candidates should note that travel and incidental expenses incurred in attending an in-person interview will not be reimbursed.



# ABOUT THE STUDENT INFORMATION ZONE (SIZ)

The Student Information Zone (SIZ) is the first point of contact for students for any query that relates to their student experience.

Situated on The Street in the heart of the campus, SIZ provides a central 'one stop shop' for information, advice and guidance on wide range of topics including course queries, submissions, wellbeing, learning and finance as well as supporting students with making referrals to specialist services as needed.

The SIZ hosts thematic drop-ins each day of the week as well as social groups, study sessions and one-off events. Our Student Information Advisers are available in person, on live chat, by phone and by email.





# 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.

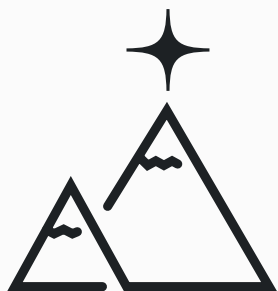
From tackling global challenges, striving for student and staff success, and creating a vibrant inclusive environment, our values are what unite us.

- ✦ 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](#).

