

Candidate Information

Position:	Early Stage Researcher
School/Department:	Various Academic Schools
Closing Date:	Wednesday 11 April 2018
Salary:	£21,917 per annum with pension or £25,576 per annum without pension
Anticipated Interview Date:	June 2018
Duration:	Temporary for three years

JOB PURPOSE:

Reporting to their Principal Supervisor, the Early Stage Researcher is responsible for the completion of a PhD within the time-scale set (three years). The ESR will be fully responsible for the development of a research plan and subsequently for the delivery of that plan leading to successful completion of the PhD. The ESR is also responsible for attendance on a training and development programme which will involve participation in a range of training events and collaboration with an external project partner within the non-academic sector. The ESR will be responsible for working with other researchers within the Marie Curie SPaRK Cohort and with researchers and staff within their School.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Plan for and complete a PhD within the time-scale set (3 years) ensuring that a project management approach is applied to enable a successful outcome.
2. Working closely with the Supervisory Team, ensuring that all expectations are met with regards to Queen's University Postgraduate Research Regulations (i.e. differentiation, annual progress reviews, viva completion)
3. Ensure that ethical considerations have been taken into account in the completion of the PhD and reported fully.
4. Ensure that research data is gathered appropriately and professionally and that research is written up with reference to the correct sources.
5. Attend meetings with the Supervisor Team as required and keep track of objectives set and timescales for completion.
6. Maintain a Career Development Plan as agreed with the Principal Supervisor and ensure that development needs are met within the time-scale of the Programme.
7. Attend conferences and meetings as agreed with the Supervisory Team.
8. Attend training events as outlined in the programme induction session and support the achievement of cohort projects as required.
9. Plan for and complete the employer placement as agreed with the Supervisory Team. Ensure that any expectations agreed with the employer with regards to the placement are met.
10. Ensure that research is disseminated as appropriate and as agreed with the Supervisory Team (i.e. use of PURE, Open Access arrangements).

Planning and Organising:

1. Create a project plan to ensure timely completion of PhD and apply project management principles to the PhD.
2. Plan and organise time so that all the objectives of the SPaRK Programme are met, including completion of PhD project, attendance at training and development events, completion of placement etc.
3. Actively plan personal and career development, ensuring that objectives are set and met during the programme.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Ensure that communication is maintained with all those working on the SPaRK Programme, including the Supervisory Team, the SPaRK Coordinator, relevant departments and staff within the University, external mentors and placement coordinators.
2. Ensure that SPaRK Project Coordinator is kept informed of any personal or cohort issues within the Programme that will affect its successful completion.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Able to evidence having already reached academic threshold for PhD study as defined within the SPaRK Programme and in relation to disciplinary norms.
2. Is an Early Career Researcher as defined by the European Union in its funding agreements.
3. Complies with the mobility rule as defined by the European Union in its funding agreements.
4. Has experience of research and of working in research teams.
5. Has a significant level of ambition in relation to their future as researchers.
6. Is able to communicate a clear statement of motivation for the project and the programme.
7. Is able to show motivation and willingness to work with partners from the non-Higher Education Sector.
8. Is able to communicate their research vision to a non-academic audience.
9. Is able to present information in a comprehensible and engaging manner.
10. Able to work and attend training events in different locations throughout Europe as determined and agreed with the supervisory team.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Evidence of exceptional academic achievement in relation to degree (undergraduate and Masters) awards.
2. Evidence of high quality and relevant professional experience that has equipped the researcher with outstanding skills.
3. Evidence of scholarly publication.