

School of Physics

Research Associate in Experimental Nuclear Astrophysics

Vacancy Ref No. 3008659

The University of Edinburgh

The University of Edinburgh is over 400 years old and is one of the largest in the UK. It is Scotland's premier research University and graded among the top British Universities in the recent national Research Assessment Exercise. It has over 2000 academic staff, a student population of some 20,000 and an annual research income of around £110m. The academic organisation of the University has recently been changed and, with effect from 1 August 2002, the University adopted a new structure consisting of twenty Schools organised into three Colleges - Science and Engineering; Medicine and Veterinary Medicine; and Humanities and Social Science

College of Science and Engineering

The College of Science and Engineering is one of the largest groupings of its kind in the United Kingdom with approximately 5000 undergraduate students and 1000 postgraduate students, and 1,400 fte staff of whom about 930 are teaching and research staff. It comprises Schools of Biological Sciences; Chemistry; Engineering and Electronics; GeoSciences; Informatics; Mathematics; and Physics. In the 2001 RAE 94 % of its academic and research staff were in units of assessment rated 5 or 5*. Most of the College is located at the King's Buildings site, approximately three miles south of the city centre.

School of Physics

The School of Physics in the College of Science & Engineering comprises the Institute for Astronomy, the Institute for Physics, EPCC, which is Europe's premier advanced computing technology transfer centre, and, in partnership with the School of Informatics, the University's new Centre for eResearch.

The Nuclear Physics Group

The Edinburgh Nuclear Physics Group has a diverse range of research interests, spanning the topics of exotic nuclei, photonuclear hadronic studies, and direct detection of dark matter. The central theme of the group is nuclear astrophysics, in which astrophysical phenomena, the physics of nuclei, and innovative experimental techniques are combined.

Experimental Nuclear Astrophysics

The Edinburgh Nuclear Physics group has an outstanding track record in experimental nuclear astrophysics, historically underpinned by expertise in developing and exploiting silicon charged particle detectors. An experienced researcher is sought to cement this area, providing scientific and technical support and leadership for the delivery of this programme

We are seeking candidates with a demonstrated track record of achievement and publication to fill a senior postdoctoral research associate position in the area of Experimental Nuclear Astrophysics. The position is to be funded by the Science and Technology Facilities Council and has a duration of 24 months, with the possibility for further extension. Ideally, the successful candidate should be able to assume the post no later than 1 August 2008.

Our nuclear astrophysics programme is conducted entirely at overseas international facilities, including the Argonne National Laboratory (USA), the TRIUMF Laboratory (Canada) and REX-ISOLDE (CERN). New opportunities are being developed at the GSI-FAIR facility (Germany) and the CNS (Tokyo). Nuclear reactions key to the understanding of novae, x-ray bursts, supernovae and other astrophysical phenomena will be investigated. The successful candidate will take the leading role in the implementation, coordination and exploitation of the advanced instrumentation required to conduct these measurements, and is expected to develop new opportunities beyond those already envisaged.

Further information on the research programme of the Nuclear Physics Group may be found at www.ph.ed.ac.uk/nuclear . Informal enquiries about this post should be directed to Professor Philip J Woods pjw@ph.ed.ac.uk tel: 0131 650 5283.

Salary

Salary is on scale UE08 £34,793 - £41,545. Initial salary is at grade 8.1, £34,793 p.a.. There is provision for membership of the Universities' Superannuation Scheme (USS) under which staff are required to contribute 6.35 % of annual salary with the University contributing at the rate of 14.0 % of annual salary.

Application Procedure:

We encourage all applicants to apply online at www.jobs.ed.ac.uk . The application process is quick and easy to follow, and you will receive email confirmation of safe receipt of your application. The online system allows you to submit a CV.

If you do not have access to a computer, you can call our recruitment line on 0131 650 2511 for an application pack. This will be posted out to you for you to complete and return. To complete the application process you need to complete the (i) Application Form, including a statement addressing how your application meets the Person Specification (ii) Additional Personal Information Form, (iii) Equality & Diversity Monitoring Form, and (iv) Rehabilitation of Offenders Form. Please also include a brief CV. Please return the Application form and all enclosures (except the equal opportunities form) to Joanna Richards, School of Physics, JCMB, The King's Buildings, Mayfield Road, Edinburgh, EH9 3JZ by the closing date of 7 April 2008. Return the equal opportunities form in the separate prepaid envelope. We cannot guarantee to consider late applications.

Please quote reference no: **3008659**

The University reserves the right to vary the candidate information or make no appointment at all. Neither in part, nor in whole does this information form part of any contract between the University and any individual.