

**Job Title:** Professor in Environmental Earth Observation  
**Grade:** 10  
**Salary:** Competitive  
**Department:** School of Geography, Geology and Environment  
**Contract:** Permanent, full-time  
**Job Reference:** SEN00965

### Role Purpose:

The School of Geography, Geology and Environment is seeking to appoint a Professor / Associate Professor in Environmental Earth Observation to grow its research activity in this area. You will provide research leadership in your area of research and be responsible for building up a research group through attracting research funding. You are expected to become a member of the Centre for Landscape and Climate Research and the new Leicester Institute of Space and Earth Observation (LISEO), seeking to expand and complement your research activities in Environmental Earth Observation and Data Intensive Science.

The University of Leicester hosts the directorate of the NERC UK National Centre for Earth Observation (NCEO), and the Centre for Landscape and Climate Research, which carries out interdisciplinary research and PhD training in Earth Observation applications to support the UN Sustainable Development Goals and UK Industrial Strategy. In March 2017 the University launched its ambitious plan for Space Park Leicester, which will establish a new centre for the analysis and commercialisation of space-enabled data and space mission development as part of the Leicestershire Enterprise Zone. The planned Space Park will strengthen ties between University research and teaching activities and our industrial partners. Alongside the development of a new generation of cutting-edge satellite technology, the site will be home to detailed analysis of space-enabled data that can transform sectors such as international communications, resource management, environmental monitoring and disaster relief.

The University of Leicester has a track record of excellent research into Earth Observation applications, including of forest structure and dynamics. The Centre for Landscape and Climate Research carries out interdisciplinary research and PhD training in Earth Observation applications to support the UN Sustainable Development Goals and UK Industrial Strategy.

You should have an excellent and internationally recognised research profile with a strong research vision and proven track record of leadership and scholarly output. Your research should complement and create synergies to the thriving research activities of the EOS group. We especially invite applicants with research interests in novel and innovate approaches for bridging EO observations and environmental models.





Principal Responsibilities	% Time
<p><b>Research</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To make a significant and meaningful impact on the research profile of the School by producing research of international quality.</li> <li>To advance the research strategy of the School, LISEO and the College of Science and Engineering.</li> <li>To lead in securing external research funding through large research grants or contracts to support a well-defined research agenda, which will deliver outputs of international excellence.</li> <li>To manage research projects within the university, including their financial control and supervision of research staff and research students.</li> <li>Consistent with the resources available and departmental and other obligations, to attend and present research findings and papers at academic and professional conferences, and to contribute to the external visibility of the School.</li> <li>To publish international-quality research articles in high-quality peer-reviewed journals.</li> <li>To ensure that all research activities undertaken are in compliance with the 'Research Code of Conduct' operated by the University.</li> </ul>	40
<p><b>Teaching</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To promote teaching excellence through the delivery of inspirational lectures, seminars, tutorials and other classes (in support of the teaching programmes) and through the supervision under- and postgraduate project work.</li> <li>As appropriate, to lead in the review, design and development of the curriculum and in the launch of new degrees.</li> <li>To maintain a broad knowledge of up-to-date research and scholarship in relevant fields to ensure that teaching meets the standards expected within a research-led University, including obtaining suitable qualifications if not already held (e.g. fellowship of the HEA).</li> <li>To undertake academic duties (e.g. setting examination papers, marking, invigilation and pastoral support of students) required to sustain the delivery of high quality teaching.</li> <li>To strive for continuous improvement of the teaching and learning environment and the student experience and satisfaction by adopting and pioneering creative approaches to teaching and learning.</li> <li>To support and comply with the University and departmental teaching quality assurance standards and procedures including the provision of such information as may be required by the Department or the University.</li> </ul>	40
<p><b>Administration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide leadership in such specific departmental roles and management functions as may be reasonably required by the Head of School.</li> </ul>	20





- To chair and to participate in other committees and working groups within the School, the College and the University to which they may be appointed or elected.
- To engage in continuous professional development, for example through participation in relevant staff development programmes.
- To undertake, subject to agreement of the Head of School and the University as appropriate, external commitments which reflect well upon and enhance the reputation of the University.
- To support the aims of the Athena Swan agenda and promote equality of opportunity.
- To ensure compliance with health and safety requirements in all aspects of work.
- To undertake significant coaching and mentoring, especially of Grade 8 and 9 staff and other Grade 10 staff
- Leadership at department, college or institutional level, with institutional impact

### Internal and External Relationships

Coordination with central University offices (Research and Enterprise Development Office, Doctoral College, Advanced Studies Institute, Registry, Estates) as required.

External representation on national/international scientific bodies/committees.

Delivery of research presentations at national/international conferences and meetings.

Engagement with the Earth Observation science community and the UK National Centre for Earth Observation (NCEO).

Contribution to the University's ambitious Internationalisation Strategy and other relevant strategies.

Peer review of research proposals and research outputs for national/international journals.

Support for international project activities.

### Planning and Organising

Long term planning/organisation of work in delivery of varied aspects of the job specification.

Seek guidance from Teaching and Research mentors, administrative support staff and other academic colleagues as required.

### Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

#### Essential

- PhD in a relevant discipline\*
- Postdoctoral research experience encompassing a strong research profile, nationally and internationally with research experience in environmental Earth Observation research and its applications\*
- Excellent impact and publication profile, with best outputs internally and externally assessed as 4 star\*





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- Hold, or be able to work towards, a recognised teaching qualification at an appropriate level for the post (e.g. Fellow/Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy)\*
- Evidence of successful and significant grant capture
- Experience of inspirational, high quality teaching of Geography at undergraduate and/or postgraduate level in the classroom and/or in the field\*
- Experience as leader of a research team
- Leadership in impact agenda across a department
- Evidence of success in roles in the assessment and management of research at national and international levels
- Record of generating research grant income \*

### Desirable

- Demonstrated excellence in supervision of PhD students in a research environment
- Significant contributions towards recruiting and winning support for research students
- Leadership and esteem in international research networks and collaborations
- Experience with non-HEI engagement and enterprise
- Experience in attracting Official Development Assistance (ODA) or similar funding
- Experience of innovation in the internationalisation of the curriculum and the student experience
- Experience of enhancement of overall approach to enterprise at department/school, college, institutional and at national and international level
- Initiation and leadership of broader institutional or college change projects, including those relevant to internationalisation

### \*Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview

## Skills, Abilities and Competencies

### Essential

- Competencies in the acquisition, evaluation and interpretation of EO and other geospatial data\*
- EO analysis skills, ideally involving big data analytics and/ or modelling techniques\*
- Ability to prioritise tasks within agreed work schedules.
- Ability to teach classes using a comprehensive range of delivery methods including lectures, seminar leadership and one-to-one coaching / tutoring within an established course.
- Ability to review, evaluate and develop the key skills of students.
- Ability to develop resource materials to enhance teaching delivery.
- Ability to lead, manage and mentor a research team

### Desirable

- Competency in the data processing of Copernicus Sentinel data
- Skills in using the SNAP Sentinel toolbox.
- Skills in programming, ideally PYTHON and/or R



**\*Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview**

## Equality and Diversity

The University of Leicester is committed to positively advancing equality of opportunity. We participate in a number of equalities initiatives which celebrate good employment practice for the advancement of diversity and equality. These include the Stonewall Workplace Equality Index, the Race Equality Charter and [Athena Swan](#).

We are proud to be selected as one of only ten Universities internationally to be an impact champion for [HeForShe](#), a global solidarity movement for gender equality. We also have a number of staff equality fora who champion the advancement of equalities for diverse groups. To find out more please visit the [Equalities](#) webpage.

## Selected Staff Benefits

- 38 days annual leave, including bank holidays and closure days
- Generous pension
- Discounted gym membership
- Childcare voucher schemes

[For more information about our fantastic benefits please click here.](#)

## VITAL - living our values

We believe that the [University of Leicester](#) is a great place to work. Our values go to the heart of everything we do and underpin our motto Ut Vitam Habeant - so that they may have life – but are denoted by the simple acronym, VITAL.

**Valuing people** - We respect, trust and appreciate our people. We recognise others' achievements and our own. We celebrate success. We help everyone to achieve their potential.

**Innovators** - We have the confidence to solve problems creatively. We are always striving to improve our service. We are resilient, proactive, clear communicators. We nurture a safe environment for innovation.

**Together** - We work better when we work together. We collaborate with other stakeholders to share knowledge and best practice. We draw on others' expertise and create networks to develop new ideas.



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**Accountable** - We are responsible for our actions. We hold ourselves and others to account and admit our mistakes. We agree what is expected and deliver on our promises. We are responsive and able to demonstrate where we've made a difference.

**Leaders** - We are confident professionals; we value knowledge and expertise and know when to use them. As leaders, we demonstrate integrity, honesty and transparency. We use our judgement and work well with others across all departments.

