



UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

## Department of Economics

### POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

#### FURTHER PARTICULARS

The Department intends to appoint a number of Postdoctoral Research Fellows (PRFs) from 1 September 2007, tenable for a fixed-term period of three years. The principal purpose of a PRF is to allow individuals to develop their research following the award of their doctorate<sup>1</sup>. A PRF is an ideal step in the career development of young academic economists before taking up a more permanent (teaching) position. The Department will give consideration to candidates with interests in any area of economics. A proven research ability is a necessary condition for an appointment to be made.

#### APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The application package should be sent, preferably via e-mail as .pdf attachments, to the Economics Secretary ([economics.secretary@nuffield.ox.ac.uk](mailto:economics.secretary@nuffield.ox.ac.uk) or Economics Secretary, Nuffield College, Oxford OX1 1NF, England). The application package should consist of i) a completed application form (obtainable from the Department website, [http://www.economics.ox.ac.uk/Jobs/ads/acad/Vacancy23\\_PRF\\_2007.htm](http://www.economics.ox.ac.uk/Jobs/ads/acad/Vacancy23_PRF_2007.htm)); ii) a curriculum vitae; iii) a one-page description of your current research; iv) a one-page description of the research you would plan to undertake as a PRF; and v) at least two research papers or thesis chapters. The **deadline** for receipt of application packages is **Wednesday 15 November 2006**.

Please ask three referees to send references directly to the Economics Secretary ([economics.secretary@nuffield.ox.ac.uk](mailto:economics.secretary@nuffield.ox.ac.uk)), also to arrive by Wednesday 15 November 2006.

**Enquiries:** e-mail [economics.secretary@nuffield.ox.ac.uk](mailto:economics.secretary@nuffield.ox.ac.uk); telephone +44-1865-278527; or fax +44-1865-278621.

Representatives of the Department will be attending the American Economic Association Winter Meeting in Chicago in January 2007 and will be happy to meet with individuals whose application has been registered by the due closing date. Formal interviews will be held in Oxford during January 2007. Those interviewed will be requested to give a research presentation, prior to a formal interview before the Committee. Reasonable interview expenses will be reimbursed.

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<sup>1</sup> Individuals must have been awarded their doctorate by the date they take up the appointment.

## **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITY**

The postholder is required to perform the following duties to the satisfaction of the Head of Department:

- (i) to engage in research in the Department of Economics under the direction of the Head of Department;
- (ii) to provide up to sixty hours of graduate or undergraduate teaching per annum within the areas covered by the Department of Economics, as requested by the Head of Department;
- (iii) the person appointed will be expected to co-operate in the administrative work of the department in term and vacation under the direction of the Head of Department.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

1. doctorate or equivalent from a major research university;
2. ability and experience necessary to teach high-achieving and challenging graduate students, including doctoral students, to carry out students assessment, and to design and deliver degree programmes;
3. able to play a major part in developing the department's research and teaching programme;
4. ability to present research findings effectively to fellow professionals or other informed members of the public;
5. ability to innovate and work effectively with colleagues and work as part of a team;
6. contribute effectively to the administration of the department as a leading centre of teaching and research.

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

All appointments are subject to the relevant provisions of the *Statutes, Decrees and Regulations* of the University in force at the time, a collected volume of which is published as occasion requires.

The appointment will be subject to satisfactory completion of a medical questionnaire.

## **REMUNERATION**

The post is on the University's Research Staff scale (effective 1 August 2006), in the range £24,886 to £30,607, subject to age and experience. Increments become payable annually on 1 October.

Removal expenses and travelling expenses in connection with the move to Oxford of the successful candidate are generally paid in full in appropriate cases. Professional expenses of up to £6,500 also are available where appropriate to cover solicitors' and other costs in connection with re-location. Further details are available on request.

## **SUPERANNUATION**

The successful candidate will have the option of becoming or remaining a member of the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS). The research fellow contributes 6.35% of their stipend and the Department contributes a sum equal to 14% of the stipend.

## **APPRAISAL**

The University's scheme is currently under review.

## **ECONOMICS AT OXFORD**

The Department is one of the best in Europe on various measures. Its primary focus and strengths are in its research activity, providing a base for a very diverse and internationally renowned group of academic economists. The Department has a strong research record and currently has a 5 rating. In many areas, such as auction theory, econometrics, economic history, industrial organization and development economics, current Oxford faculty have made major recent research based contributions to modern economics.

There are some 60 economists holding permanent appointments: eight are Fellows of the British Academy, seven Fellows of the Econometric Society, and eight are members of the Council of the Royal Economic Society. For details consult our website: [www.economics.ox.ac.uk/Faculty/Faculty.asp](http://www.economics.ox.ac.uk/Faculty/Faculty.asp).

Six previous members have been awarded Nobel Prizes – Sir John Hicks, Lawrence Klein, Sir James Meade, Sir James Mirrlees, Amartya Sen and Joe Stiglitz.

The Department accommodates a number of externally funded research groups and projects, including the Centre for the Study of African Economies and the ESRC Centre on Skills, Knowledge and Organisational Performance. In 2005 an agreement was signed with BP for the creation of a Research Centre for the Analysis of Resource Rich Economies. The Centre will open in October 2006, initially with a Director and two senior research staff (see our website for further information).

Members of the Department are involved in teaching for the Economics graduate and undergraduate degree courses. There are about 200 graduates and 850 undergraduates studying Economics. Each year the Department admits about 30 graduates to read for the research degrees.

In 2004 the Department embarked on a major recruitment campaign and will also be expanding the number of graduate courses available, including the MSc in Financial Economics (joint with the Saïd Business School). Additionally, discussions are currently taking place with the Law Faculty relating to a new graduate course in Economics and Law.

The Department of Economics was created in the summer of 1999, and moved into its new building (designed by Sir Norman Foster) in the autumn of that year. A system of research groups, with associated seminars, operates within the department.

The Phase II extension of the Manor Road Building was completed in the summer of 2004 and the Manor Road Building now houses three of the social sciences departments and their related research centres.<sup>2</sup> Graduate teaching is also concentrated here.

The Department's valuable research library has now been incorporated in the excellent Social Science Library which brings together the various collections in one central location in the Manor Road Building

There is no undergraduate degree in economics alone, but the courses that include economics are: Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE); Modern History and Economics; Engineering (or Materials), Economics and Management; and Economics and Management.

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<sup>2</sup> Economics, Politics and International Relations, Sociology; Centre for Criminology, Centre for Socio-legal studies and the Oxford Institute of Ageing.

The graduate degrees are the MPhil in Economics, which is a two-year general economics degree; the MSc in Economics for Development, which is a one-year degree; and the DPhil which is a degree by dissertation. About 60 graduates are admitted each year to read for the MPhil, and about 25 to read for the MSc. In addition, about 30 are admitted each year to read for the research degrees, including those who proceed to the doctorate after the MPhil or MSc. About 20 students a year are also admitted to read for the MSc and MPhil in Economic and Social History within the Faculty of Modern History. Last year the Department launched an MSc degree in Financial Economics (joint with the Saïd Business School) with 75 students admitted.

The Oxford University Computing Service provides a comprehensive range of computing facilities. The University is fully interconnected via a fibre optic network, and the Department of Economics offers a wide range of PC-based computing facilities, including (mathematical) word-processing, laser printing, econometric analysis, and databases.

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

### **EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY**

The policy and practice of the University of Oxford require that entry into employment with the University and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each particular post and the relevant salary structure. Subject to statutory provisions, no applicant or member of staff will be treated less favourably than another because of his or her sex, marital status, or racial group. Where suitably qualified individuals are available, selection committees will contain at least one member of each sex.

All data supplied by applicants will be used only for the purposes of determining their suitability for the post and will be held in accordance with the principles of the Data Protection Act 1998 and the University's Data Protection Policy.

### **MATERNITY AND PATERNITY LEAVE, AND CHILDCARE FACILITIES**

The University has generous maternity leave arrangements. Provided that they have at least 26 weeks' service with the University at the fifteenth week before the expected date of birth, or have at any time been eligible to receive full-rate Statutory Maternity Pay or were at any stage entitled to the benefits of a previous employer's paid maternity leave scheme, women will qualify for the scheme which offers maternity leave on full pay and also a period of unpaid leave. Arrangements are available for the flexible use of untaken unpaid leave to enable a phased return to full duties; for women to return to work on a part-time basis after the birth of their child; and for paternity leave. For further information, please see the University website <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/ps/staff/family/>

The University grants two weeks (10 days) paid paternity or birth and adoption support leave to a member of staff whose wife or partner is pregnant, or plans to adopt a baby. For further information, please see <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/ps/staff/family/>

The University has three subsidised nurseries and also subsidises places at some local nurseries, although at present there is a waiting list. There is also a salary sacrifice scheme whereby parents with children at university nurseries are able to save on income tax and national insurance contributions, and a virtual voucher scheme for parents with children not at university nurseries whereby a saving is made on national insurance contributions. There is also a holiday playscheme for school-age children. Further information may be obtained from the [childcare website](#) or by e-mailing <mailto:childcare@admin.ox.ac.uk>, or writing to the Diversity and Equal Opportunities Unit, University of Oxford, University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JD.