JOB TITLE: RESEARCH ASSISTANT/ASSOCIATE FOR THE CAMBRIDGE ENDOWMENT FOR RESEARCH IN FINANCE (CERF) – THEORETICAL FINANCE (FIXED TERM)

REPORTS TO: CENTRE MANAGER

Background

The Cambridge Endowment for Research in Finance (CERF) was founded in 2001 as an independent endowment in the University of Cambridge. The formal objective of CERF is to promote research within the University of Cambridge into all aspects of finance, financial institutions and financial markets, and their relationship with economic behaviour and performance. This post is funded by CERF and the work will be carried out in CERF’s offices in Cambridge Judge Business School. Further information about the Cambridge Endowment for Research in Finance can be found on www.cerf.cam.ac.uk.

The University of Cambridge is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in the world and is consistently at or near the top of national and international rankings. Cambridge sits at the heart of the extraordinary phenomenon of start-up and growing technology-based businesses and is only an hour away from the financial and business capital of London. This location, combined with the University’s global network of alumni and other supporters, provides unparalleled access to companies throughout the world. Further information on the University of Cambridge can be found at www.cam.ac.uk.

The role

The role holder will be expected to conduct research in theoretical finance in areas such as corporate finance, asset pricing, banking, financial economics, market microstructure, behavioural or mathematical finance.

We are seeking applicants with outstanding research potential who can develop their own research agendas whilst participating in independent research in collaboration with members of the research community within the University of Cambridge. Applications are invited from individuals who have a clear indication of ability to conduct research at the highest international level with a view to future publications in world leading journals.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

Research

• Develop research objectives and proposals for own or joint research.
• Conduct individual and collaborative research projects.
• Write up research work for presentation and publication.
• Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism.
• Translate knowledge of advances in the subject areas into research activity.
• Manage own research and administrative activities.
• Present the research to the Cambridge Finance research community, and at seminars or conferences outside the University of Cambridge.

Liaising and networking
• Liaise with colleagues from the Cambridge Finance community and faculty from the Finance group at Cambridge Judge Business School.
• During term time the role holder will have the opportunity to attend the weekly meetings of the CERF fellows.
• Attend the Cambridge Finance seminars and the seminars organised by the Finance and Accounting group at Cambridge Judge Business School. Information about these seminars can be found at www.finance.group.cam.ac.uk/events/cambridge-finance-workshop-series and www.jbs.cam.ac.uk/faculty-research/subject-groups/finance.
• The successful candidate will be expected to build internal and external contacts, participate in networks for the exchange of information, and form relationships for future collaboration.
• The role holder may be asked to help organise seminars and conferences.
• Contribute to the Centre for Finance activities and communications.

Teaching and learning support
• May assist in the supervision of student projects.
• May assist in the development of student research skills.
• May plan and deliver seminars relating to research area.

Planning and organising
• Plan the use of research resources, laboratories and workshops as appropriate.
• Plan and manage own research activity in collaboration with others.
• Contribute to planning of joint research projects led by principle investigator.

The person
The ideal candidate should have the following qualities, skills and attributes. You are asked to demonstrate how your own experience meets these requirements in the expression of interest cover letter.

• A PhD in finance.
• Research experience with sufficient knowledge in the discipline and of research methods and techniques.
• Demonstrate a strong commitment to research and publications in refereed academic journals.
• Driven and committed, demonstrating initiative and self-motivation.
• Good time management and planning skills with a commitment to delivery.
• Proficiency in English is required.

Benefits
The salary will be in the range of £31,604-£38,833 for a Research Associate (Grade 7). Successful candidates who have not been awarded their PhD by the appointment date will be under-appointed as a Research Assistant (Grade 5) employed on a salary of £28,936 per annum. Upon award of the PhD the individual will be promoted to Research Associate (Grade 7).
This is a fixed term appointment for two years in the first instance. There will be a six-month probationary period. Holiday entitlement is 33 days per annum plus eight days of public holidays.

The full incremental salary range for the position is advertised in order to demonstrate the progression for the Grade. In the majority of cases appointments will be made at the Grade minimum; only in very specific exceptional circumstances can a higher salary be offered.

The University of Cambridge comprises more than 150 departments, faculties, schools and other institutions, plus a central administration and 31 independent and autonomous Colleges. It is one of the world’s oldest and most successful Universities, with an outstanding reputation for academic achievement and research.

With excellent benefits, extensive learning opportunities and a stimulating and attractive environment, the University of Cambridge is a great place to work. Our employees are eligible for a wide range of competitive benefits and services. We give them access to numerous discounts on shopping, health care, financial services and public transport. We also offer final salary pensions and tax-efficient bicycle and car lease schemes.

We have two nurseries and a holiday play scheme to help support those with childcare responsibilities and we offer various types of family-friendly leave to aid employees’ work-life balance. In addition we operate a number of initiatives to promote career development, health and well-being.

Further details can be found at www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/hr/staff/benefits. There is also a range of information about living and working in Cambridge at www.jobs.cam.ac.uk.

Application arrangements

To submit an application for this vacancy, please search for this position on the University’s Job Opportunities website at www.jobs.cam.ac.uk and click on the “Apply online” button at the bottom of the relevant job description. This will route you to the University’s Web Recruitment System, where you will need to register an account (if you have not already) and log in before completing the online application form.

The closing date for applications is 10 February 2018.

Applications should include:

- a curriculum vitae
- an expression of interest cover letter:
  1. outlining your research area, and a brief overview of the research you have done to date
  2. a brief outline of your research agenda for the coming three years
- job market paper
- supplementary material containing other available research papers
- contact details of two referees.

Informal queries may be directed to Dr Rabia Dada-Oughton at r.dada-oughton@jbs.cam.ac.uk.

Equality of opportunity at the University

The University of Cambridge is committed to a proactive approach to equality, which supports and encourages all under-represented groups, promotes an inclusive culture and values diversity. Entry into
employment with the University is determined by personal merit and by the application of criteria required for the post. No applicant for an appointment or member of staff will be treated less favourably than another on the grounds of sex (including gender reassignment), marital or parental status, race, ethnic or national origin, colour, disability (including HIV status), sexual orientation, religion, age or socio-economic factors.

The University has various diversity networks which help it to progress equality; these include the Women’s Staff Network, the Disabled Staff Network, the Black and Minority Ethnic Staff Network and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Staff Network. In addition, the University was ranked in the top 100 employers for lesbian, gay and bisexual (LGB) staff in Stonewall’s Workplace Equality Index 2011.

Information if you have a disability

The University welcomes applications from individuals with disabilities and is committed to ensuring fair treatment throughout the recruitment process. Adjustments will be made, wherever reasonable to do so, to enable applicants to compete to the best of their ability and, if successful, to assist them during their employment.

We encourage applicants to declare their disabilities in order that any special arrangements, particularly for the selection process, can be accommodated. Applicants or employees can declare a disability at any time.

Applicants wishing to discuss any special arrangements connected with their disability can, at any point in the recruitment process, contact, a member of Cambridge Judge Business School’s HR team who are responsible for recruitment to this position, on (01223) 768497 or by email on hr@jbs.cam.ac.uk. Alternatively, applicants can contact the HR Business Manager responsible for the department they are applying to via hrenquiries@admin.cam.ac.uk.