

JOB TITLE: RESEARCH ASSISTANT/ASSOCIATE (EL-ERIAN INSTITUTE) [FIXED-TERM]

REPORTS TO: EL-ERIAN PROFESSOR

Background

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 El-Erian Institute (EEI) is a research centre located within Cambridge Judge Business School (CJBS). Set up in 2022, it aspires to become over time a centre for Behavioural Insights and Behavioural Public Policy with global visibility, reach and impact. It is led by Professor Lucia Reisch, the inaugural El-Erian Professor of Behavioural Economics and Public Policy.

The role

The purpose of this role is to support and maintain the University's national and international reputation for excellence in teaching and research. The postholder will work on different research-related tasks, overseen by Professor Lucia Reisch. The tasks will include (but not be limited to): design of field trials in international settings; supervising field experiments; supporting local data retrieval and analysis. The position has a clear research focus and high publication potential, and may also allow for career developing teaching. The role holder will work in an interdisciplinary research lab with several early career researchers.

We welcome applications from candidates with backgrounds in behavioural economics and/or psychology and related disciplines, with strong expertise in quantitative research methods and field work (mainly: field experiments, surveys). Candidates should have a PhD degree (or about to receive it), publication experience in international peer-reviewed journals, and strong quantitative methods skills. Knowledge of social data science methods is desirable. They should provide evidence of interest in policy engagement and sustainable development.

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
- Assist in the preparation of proposals and applications to external bodies e.g. for funding or contractual purposes.

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

Liaising and networking

- Liaise with colleagues and students
- 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 El-Erian Institute activities and communications.

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 provide a covering letter demonstrating how your own experience meets these requirements.

- A PhD in relevant specialist subject; or about to receive their PhD.
- 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.

Benefits

This is a full-time role working 37 hours per week. There will be a six-month probationary period. Holiday entitlement is 33 days per annum plus eight days of public holidays.

This is a fixed term appointment for three years in the first instance.

Successful candidates who have not been awarded their PhD by the appointment date will be under-appointed at Research Assistant level (Grade 5, salary range: £27,116 - £31,406). Upon award of the PhD the individual will be promoted to Research Associate (Grade 7, salary range: £33,309 - £40,927).

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.

Pension scheme details, including information about the legal requirement for the University to automatically enrol its eligible jobholders into a qualifying workplace pension scheme from 1 March 2013, is available at www.pensions.admin.cam.ac.uk.

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.

Applicants are required to provide details of two referees. These will not be contacted unless the applicant is shortlisted.

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.