

University of St Andrews

Department of Geography & Sustainable Development

**Professor in Human Geography and Director of the Centre for Housing Research –
Ref: ME1283**

Further Particulars for Applicants

Department of Geography & Sustainable Development

The School of Geography & Geoscience is the top-rated Geography Department in Scotland, performing well in the last Research Assessment Exercise. The School has several strategic research groups including the **Centre for Housing Research** (<http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/chr>); the ESRC-funded *Longitudinal Studies Centre – Scotland* (www.lscs.ac.uk); the *Centre for Geoinformatics* (<http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/geoinformatics/>), the ESRC-funded *Administrative Data Liaison Service* (www.adls.ac.uk) and the ESRC *Centre for Population Change* (CPC) (<http://www.cpc.ac.uk>) - a collaborative initiative involving researchers at the University of Southampton and a consortium of Scottish Universities led by St Andrews.

A key dimension of the advertised post is to provide leadership to the **Centre for Housing Research** at the University of St Andrews. Founded in 1990, the Centre has built on its strengths to become the largest housing research centre in Scotland and one of the leading centres in the UK. In the last 12 years the Centre has attracted funding in excess of £10million from Government, charitable trusts and RCUK grant funders. The Centre is looking to build on this success as a provider of international, world-leading and policy relevant research. The new Director will have the opportunity to continue the development of the Centre, building upon existing expertise in recording and analysing administrative data, researching housing systems and assessing the impact of housing outcomes on individuals, the economy and wider environment. The Centre has recently established the *Scottish Cities Knowledge Centre* and has an ambitious research agenda embracing intergenerational justice, community resilience, scales of governance and understanding the implications of migration and diversity for housing outcomes and life-course patterns.

This is an exciting opportunity to champion new initiatives in the **Centre for Housing Research** at a key phase in its development. These new initiatives will build on existing world class research programmes already located within the Centre, School and University.

The job description for the Chair in Human Geography and Director of the Centre for Housing Research is attached below.

Job Description

Job Title: Professor in Human Geography and Director of the Centre for Housing Research

School/Unit: Geography and Geoscience

Reporting to: Head of School

Job Status: Academic (Teaching & Research)

Working Hours: Full Time

Grade/Salary Range: Negotiable

Reference No: ME1283

Start Date: 1st January 2014 or as soon as possible thereafter

Main Purpose of Role

The successful candidate will be expected to:

- represent and raise the profile of the Centre for Housing Research and the School both in the UK and internationally
- lead the strategic research agenda and direction for the Centre for Housing Research, building on the close collaboration between the Centre and researchers both in Geography and Sustainable Development and in other disciplines across the University
- engage pro-actively with policy makers at senior levels of government and with practitioners and key stakeholders in the housing sector, enhancing the Centre for Housing Research's reputation in knowledge exchange and in providing leading-edge applied research
- enhance academic leadership in Human Geography through continued improvement to the reputation of existing programmes in terms of research, teaching and administration

Key Duties and Responsibilities

1. Academic leadership
2. First class management skills
3. Capacity to earn significant external research funding
4. Research outputs of an internationally excellent quality
5. Research supervision at postgraduate and postdoctoral levels

Please note that this job description is not exhaustive, and the role holder may be required to undertake other relevant duties commensurate with the grading of the post. Activities may be subject to amendment over time as the role develops and/or priorities and requirements evolve.

Person Specification

This section details the attributes e.g. skills, knowledge/qualifications and competencies which are required in order to undertake the full remit of this post.

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Means of Assessment
Education & Qualifications	<p>An outstanding scholar of international standing</p> <p>PhD or equivalent in a relevant discipline to housing research</p>		Application
Experience & Knowledge	<p>Experienced academic leader</p> <p>An outstanding track record in high quality research, published in leading journals</p> <p>Strong track record in attracting and supervising postgraduate students</p> <p>Strong capacity for intellectual leadership of inter-disciplinary research collaborations</p>	Proven interest in the research themes currently pursued by the Centre for Housing Research	Application and Interview
Competencies & Skills	<p>Ability to communicate complex, theoretical and technical material in an engaging and intelligible way to non-specialist audiences</p> <p>Very strong communications and people skills</p> <p>Organised and efficient administrative skills</p>	<p>Track record of engagement with policy makers and stakeholders at a senior level</p> <p>Willingness to contribute to the Geography teaching programme</p>	Application, presentation and interview
Other Attributes/Abilities	<p>Very strong record for external research grant capture</p> <p>Openness to diverse disciplinary engagement and trans-disciplinary collaboration</p>	Evidence of winning research council and/or EU grants	Application and interview

Essential Criteria – requirements without which a candidate would not be able to undertake the full remit of the role. Applicants who have not clearly demonstrated in their application that they possess the essential requirements will normally be rejected at the short listing stage.

Desirable Criteria – requirements which would be useful for the candidate to hold. When short listing, these criteria will be considered when more than one applicant meets the essential requirements.

Other Information

We encourage applicants to apply online at www.vacancies.st-andrews.ac.uk/welcome.aspx, however if you are unable to do this, please call +44 (0)1334 462571 for a paper application form.

For all applications, please quote ref: ME1283

The University is committed to equality of opportunity.

The University of St Andrews is a charity registered in Scotland (No SC013532).

Obligations as an Employee

You have a duty to carry out your work in a safe manner in order not to endanger yourself or anyone else by your acts or omissions.

You are required to comply with the University human and safety policy as it relates to your work activities, and to take appropriate action in case of an emergency.

You are responsible for applying the University's equality and diversity policies and principles in your own area of responsibility and in your general conduct.

You have a responsibility to promote high levels of customer care within your own area of work/activities.

You should be adaptable to change, and be willing to acquire new skills and knowledge as applicable to the needs of the role.

You may, with reasonable notice, be required to work within other Schools/Units within the University of St Andrews.

You have the responsibility to engage with the University's commitment to Environmental Sustainability in order to reduce its waste, energy consumption and carbon footprint.

The University & Town

Founded in the early 15th century, St Andrews is Scotland's first university and the third oldest in the English speaking world.

Situated on the east coast of Scotland and framed by countryside, beaches and cliffs, the town of St Andrews was once the centre of the nation's political and religious life.

Today it is known around the world as the 'Home of Golf' and a vibrant academic town with a distinctively cosmopolitan feel where students and university staff account for more than 30% of the local population.

The University of St Andrews is a diverse and international community of over 9000, comprising students and staff of over 100 nationalities. It has 7500 students, 6000 of them undergraduates, and employs approximately 1840 staff - made up of c.700 academic and c.1140 support personnel.

St Andrews has approximately 50,000 living graduates, among them Scottish First Minister Alex Salmond and the novelist Fay Weldon. In the last 90 years, the University has conferred around 1000 honorary degrees; notable recipients include Bob Dylan, Benjamin Franklin, The Dalai Lama, Dame Judi Dench and Jack Nicklaus.

The University is one of Europe's most research intensive seats of learning. It is the top rated University in Scotland for teaching quality and student satisfaction and among the top rated in the UK for research. The 2008 Research Assessment Exercise judged 94% of the University's research activity as internationally recognised with over 60% world leading or internationally excellent.

St Andrews is consistently held to be one of the United Kingdom's top ten universities in university league tables compiled by The Times, The Sunday Times, The Guardian and The Independent Complete University Guide. It has five times been named the top multi-faculty university in the UK in the National Student Survey. The 2011 Times Higher Education World Rankings places the University in the top 100 overall, in the top 25 for Arts and Humanities and in the top 20 for international outlook.

Its international reputation for delivering high quality teaching and research and student satisfaction make it one of the most sought after destinations for prospective students from the UK, Europe and overseas. In 2010 the University received on average 11 applications per place. St Andrews has highly challenging academic entry requirements to attract only the most academically potent students in the Arts, Sciences, Medicine and Divinity.

The University is closely integrated with the town. The Main Library, many academic Schools and Service Units are located centrally, while the growth in research-active sciences and medicine has been accommodated at the North Haugh on the western edge of St Andrews.

As part of its 600th anniversary celebrations, launched by graduate Prince William in 2011 and running to 2013, the University is pursuing a varied programme of capital investment, including the refurbishment of its Main Library and a major investment in its collections, a new biomolecular research facility, the refurbishment of the Students' Union and the development of a wind-farm to offset energy costs.

The School of Geography & Geosciences occupies the Irvine Building, which is located in the historic town centre near the University Library and overlooks St Andrews Bay. The Centre for Housing Research, with its significant staff component, is located in its own building, in a semi-rural setting, some 20 minutes walk from the School. The working environments of both the School and the Centre are informal, friendly and relaxed. Social events organised by student societies also promote good relationships between staff and students.

Key Social Science and Human Geography Staff in the School include:

Chairholders

Professor Allan Findlay: Population Geography; Migration
Professor Stewart Fotheringham: GIS, Economic Geography
Professor Elspeth Graham: Population Geography; Health Geography
Professor Colin Hunter: Sustainable Development; Tourism
Professor Duncan MacLennan: Housing, Neighbourhoods and Cities; Economic Geography
Professor Paul Boyle: Human Geography; Population Geography (On Leave of Absence at ESRC)

Readers/ Senior Lecturers

Dr Dan Clayton: Historical Geography; Colonialism
Dr Chris Dibben: Population Geography; Health Geography
Dr Donald Houston: Housing, Disadvantage and Sustainable Development
Dr Mike Kesby: Gender Geography; Southern Africa; HIV/AIDS
Dr Charles Warren: Sustainable Development; Environmental Management
Dr Chris Wilson: Demography, Population Studies

Lecturers

Dr Urska Demsar: GIS, Geovisualisation
Dr Emilia Ferrarro: Social Anthropology and Sustainable Development
Dr Jed Long: Geoinformatics
Dr Kim McKee: Housing, Poverty and Communities
Dr Darren McCauley: Governance, Energy and Sustainable Development
Dr David McCollum: Migration
Dr Darja Reuschke: Housing and Labour Markets
Dr Louise Reid: Environmental Behaviours and Sustainable Development
Dr Matthew Sothern: Human Geography; HIV/AIDS
Dr Tim Stojanovic: Ocean and Coastal Management and Sustainable Development
Dr Rehema White: Sustainable Development; Environmental Management