Chair in Accountancy
Business School

Closing date: 02 June 2019
Interview date: To Be Confirmed
Reference number: BUS104A
Introduction

The Business School at the University of Aberdeen

The Business School is in an exciting and ambitious phase of its development. While proud of the University’s 500-year history, the Business School is a core part of the University’s plans for the future and is committed to increasing its profile. In order to facilitate its further growth and development, the Business School is now a standalone unit within the University. As an integral part of its growth strategy, the School has initiated a plan to earn accreditation of the School from the three main international accrediting agencies in the coming years. The Business School comprises several related disciplines: Accountancy, Economics, Finance, Management, and Real Estate.

A strong research ethos runs throughout the School, most recently highlighted by the success in our submissions to the Business and Management and the Architecture, Built Environment and Planning panels in REF2014. Research is organised around multidisciplinary themes, and there is a developing culture of cross-disciplinary research that engages in ‘real world’ problems and issues. This fits into a broader research agenda that builds partnerships across the University, including close research ties with, for example, the Aberdeen Institute of Energy and the Health Economics Research Unit. The School also has a number of Research Centres including the Aberdeen Centre for Research in Energy Economics and Finance, the Centre for European Labour Market Research, the Centre for Real Estate Research, and the Scottish Experimental Economics Laboratory. There is a strong and growing base of PhD students in each of the disciplines.

Teaching is also at the core of our activity. We have strong undergraduate programmes across the range of disciplines. The School is also home to a growing suite of postgraduate degrees from traditional degrees such as an MBA and Executive MBA and an MSc in Accounting and Finance and in International Business Management to more distinctive offerings, such as our MSc Finance and Real Estate and MSc in Finance and Investment Management, which are integrated with the CFA Level 1 exam, the MSc in Petroleum, Energy Economics and Finance and our new fully online MSc in Finance and online MBA (Global).

Another distinctive dimension to the teaching at the School is the integration of our Trading Room into our Finance degrees. There is a high level of international diversity in our student population, helped by a growing number of agreements with foreign universities and other international partnerships, further enhancing the student experience in both the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

Building on substantial investment in the School over the past two years with over 20 new academic staff, the School is in the process of making further hires at both the senior and junior levels in Accountancy. The Chair appointments will have the opportunity to help shape and lead the ambitions of the School.

The School is proud to have been awarded the Athena SWAN Bronze Award for equality and diversity (one of only ten Business Schools in the UK with this award). Details can be found here: [https://www.abdn.ac.uk/business/people/equality-and-diversity-234.php](https://www.abdn.ac.uk/business/people/equality-and-diversity-234.php). More information on the School is available by clicking on the link: [www.abdn.ac.uk/business](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/business).
Job description

The Business School is seeking to recruit a Chair in Accountancy who can make a significant contribution to leadership within the discipline, as well as working towards the development of the School’s ambition to build a globally recognised centre of Accountancy research and teaching.

Key responsibilities:

Chair in Accountancy

- Leading and coordinating research in Accounting towards the REF2021 research submission; undertaking research leading to publications in international, peer-reviewed journals and developing research leading to potential impact;

- Developing collaborative research with current staff within the University, as well as visiting academics and international researchers as opportunities present;

- Fostering professional links within the discipline of accountancy to enhance the currency of programmes and the reputation of the department;

- Developing externally funded research programmes and establishing new research income opportunities;

- Contributing to postgraduate research training within the discipline of accountancy;

- Contributing to the teaching of the Business School’s programmes and development of new offerings;

- Supervising undergraduate and postgraduate dissertations and projects as well as PhD students;

- Taking responsibility for any administrative and leadership tasks assigned by the Head or Deputy Head of the Business School.

At a glance

Salary: Competitive Remuneration Package

Hours of work: Full-time

Contract type: Substantive
Candidate background

The successful applicant will have a strong, internationally recognised publication record and will have a track record in peer-rated grant applications and postgraduate research supervision. Research excellence and an ability to coordinate and support research capacity building within the School are also important requirements for this post.

Proven administration and management experience are also desirable in the successful applicant as is a willingness to contribute strongly to the promotion of the international recognition of Accountancy at Aberdeen.

Effective and innovative teaching and teaching leadership are key aspects of the post and we seek candidates who can cover one or more core teaching areas in Accountancy such as Financial Accounting, Management Accounting, Audit, or Tax.

Terms of appointment

A competitive remuneration package will be available for exceptional candidates considered for appointment at Professorial level and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience.

Any appointment will be made subject to satisfactory references.

For further information on various staff benefits and policies please visit www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here

Should you require a visa to undertake paid employment in the UK you will be required to fulfil the minimum points criteria to be granted a Certificate of Sponsorship and Tier 2 visa. As appropriate, at the time an offer of appointment is made you will be asked to demonstrate that you fulfil the criteria in respect of qualifications and competency in English. Please do not hesitate to contact Marian Elliott-Jones (m.elliott-jones@abdn.ac.uk) for further information.
### Person specification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education/Qualifications</strong></td>
<td>Academic, technical and professional education and training</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• PhD in Accountancy or a relevant discipline</td>
<td>• Membership of a relevant professional body</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Work and Other relevant experience (including training)</strong></td>
<td>• Internationally leading record of peer-reviewed published research</td>
<td>• Evidence of Impact and Outreach generated by research and scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Demonstrable success in leading a research group to achieve internationally recognised outputs</td>
<td>• Proven administrative/management experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Demonstrable success in generating research income</td>
<td>• Evidence of programme leadership within a business school environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Demonstrable evidence of effective teaching in a higher education institution at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels, including doctoral thesis supervision.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Recognition of the importance of budget control and income generation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Personal qualities and abilities</strong></td>
<td>• Excellent interpersonal and presentational skills and ability to communicate well with students, and foster collegiality within academic and administrative staff.</td>
<td>• Ability and willingness to initiate and sustain international collaborations, including international travel as required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Strong commitment to teaching and proven ability in leadership in shaping undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and courses.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Demonstrable ability to provide effective leadership and mentoring in promoting research activities and scholarship both within the discipline of Accountancy and University-wide, including the recruitment and supervision of postgraduate students.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other</strong></td>
<td>• Willingness to be involved in the full range of University activities including Knowledge Transfer and student recruitment activities</td>
<td>• Willingness to be involved in the development of online modules or teaching overseas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Willingness and flexibility to respond to demands of the role, e.g. unsocial hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The University

Founded in 1495, Aberdeen is Scotland’s third oldest University and the fifth oldest in the UK. Ranked within the world top 160 in the Times Higher Education Rankings 2019 and named Scottish University of the Year in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019. Aberdeen is ‘open to all and dedicated to the pursuit of truth in the service of others’.

Aberdeen is a broad based, research intensive University, which puts students at the head of everything it does. It has significant academic strengths and potential across a wide variety of disciplines. Outstanding in a wide range of discipline areas, Aberdeen has also been credited for its international reach and its commercialisation of research ideas into spin out companies.

The University has over 14,000 matriculated students and 3,600 staff representing 130 nationalities. We encourage bold thinking, creativity and innovation and we nurture ambition with many opportunities for professional and personal development in an inclusive learning environment which challenges, inspires and helps every individual to reach their full potential.

The University combines a distinguished heritage with a forward looking attitude. In the past few years, the University has encouraged creativity in its academic staff, broken new ground with an innovative curriculum, and developed state-of-the-art facilities including the new Sir Duncan Rice Library and the Aberdeen Sports Village and Aquatics Centre. In looking to the future, the University seeks to enhance its reputation as one of the world’s leading Universities by moving forward with ever more ground breaking research; ensuring students have an intellectual and social experience second to none; and capitalising upon the dual role as one of the major institutions of the north and as a cornerstone of regional economic and cultural life.
The city and the region

**Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire**

With a population of approximately 230,000, the city stands between the Rivers Dee and Don. This historic city has many architectural splendours and the use of its sparkling local granite has earned Aberdeen the name of the Silver City. Recognised as the oil capital of Europe, Aberdeen nevertheless retains its old-fashioned charm and character making it an attractive place in which to live.

Aberdeen enjoys excellent communication services with other European cities - e.g. flying time to London is just over one hour with regular daily flights. There are direct air links to London (City, Gatwick, Heathrow, and Luton), Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Southampton, Belfast and East Midlands within the U.K. There are also flights to international hub airports: Amsterdam (Schiphol), Paris (Charles De-Gaulle) as well as flights to other European destinations. [http://www.aberdeenairport.com](http://www.aberdeenairport.com) Road and rail links are also well developed.

The Grampian Region which took its name from the Grampian Mountains has a population of approximately 545,000. It is made up of five districts – Aberdeen, Banff & Buchan, Gordon, Kincardine & Deeside and Moray. The city and the surrounding countryside provide a variety of urban, sea-side and country pursuits. Aberdeen has first class amenities including His Majesty's Theatre, Music Hall, Art Gallery, the Aberdeen Exhibition Centre, Museums, and Beach Leisure centre. Within a short time, beach pursuits, equine activities, salmon, trout and sea fishing, hill-walking, mountaineering, golf, sailing, surfing and windsurfing can be reached. The city and the surrounding countryside are repeatedly given high ratings for quality of life in surveys.

Aberdeenshire is one of Scotland’s most appealing regions. Royal Deeside and the Cairngorms National Park are within easy access of the city, and there are a variety of towns and villages scattered along the coastline.

Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire cater for a wide range of tastes in sporting and cultural activities.

To find out more about Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire go to [www.visitabdn.com](http://www.visitabdn.com)
How to apply

Online application forms are available at www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs

The closing date for receipt of applications is 02 June 2019

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry, please contact:

Professor Keith Bender, Interim Head of School
Tel: +44-(0)1224 273411, email: kabender@abdn.ac.uk

or

Dr Bill Jackson, Head of Accountancy
Tel: +44-(0)1224 273147; email: william.jackson@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Professor Bender or Dr Jackson.

Please quote reference number BUS104A on all correspondence

The University pursues a policy of equal opportunities in the appointment and promotion of staff.