Lecturer in Applied Statistics

INSTITUTE OF APPLIED HEALTH SCIENCES, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, MEDICAL SCIENCES AND NUTRITION
SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Closing date: 27 January 2023
Interview date: To Be Confirmed
Reference number: IHS130A
**INTRODUCTION**

This post is an exciting opportunity for a highly motivated and ambitious individual to join our multi-disciplinary team of 11 statisticians based at the Institute of Applied Health Sciences (IAHS) and the School of Biological Sciences (SBS). Our welcoming and friendly team conduct innovative methodological research and provide statistical support for researchers across a range of disciplines including, medicine, genomics, ecology and environmental sciences. We also take a leading role in delivering highly valued teaching and training in applied statistics across the University and externally.

As a valued member of our team, you will contribute to the research strategies of both the IAHS and SBS by providing statistical support and consultancy to university researchers, NHS staff and external partners. In addition, you will have the opportunity to develop and maintain your own area of methodological research leading to collaborative projects, grant applications and published journal articles. You will also take an active role in developing and delivering our modern applied statistics courses to undergraduate and postgraduate students in both IAHS and SBS. This will involve face-to-face and online teaching and supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate student research projects.

We welcome informal enquiries about this role. Please contact either Professor Amanda Lee (Tel: 44 (0) 1224 437111, Email: a.j.lee@abdn.ac.uk) or Professor Alex Douglas (Tel: 44 (0) 1224 272873, Email: a.douglas@abdn.ac.uk) for a confidential chat.

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

**MAIN PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:**

As a Lecturer in Applied Statistics your duties will be split across research, teaching and administration. Your primary responsibilities will be to work closely with researchers across a range of disciplines within IAHS and SBS to provide statistical support and expertise on collaborative research projects. You will also contribute to the delivery of modern applied statistics teaching at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.
KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Research

- Provide statistical support to multi-disciplinary research groups, leading to project collaborations, grant applications and publications in high quality, peer reviewed journals.
- Develop a programme of independent methodological research in applied statistics, linked to the strategic themes within IAHS and SBS.
- Provide supervision to research students according to your individual area(s) of research expertise, experience and interest.
- Provide consultancy to researchers both within and outside the University.

Teaching

- Contribute to applied statistics teaching (face to face and online) at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.
- Supervise and mark undergraduate and postgraduate research projects.

Other

- Contribute to the wider academic life of the University through participation in various committees and in continuing professional development.

CANDIDATE BACKGROUND

- You will have a PhD in statistics/medical statistics or a biological subject with a high statistical content.
- You will have a track record of collaborative research with biologists and/or medical scientists, including first and co-authored publications in internationally excellent peer-reviewed journals.
- You will have experience and an enthusiasm for teaching applied statistics to biology and medical students at UG and/or PGT level. Ideally, you will also have previous experience of supervising and marking undergraduate and/or MSc student projects.
- You will possess a high level of proficiency and experience of using R to conduct statistical analysis.
- You will be an experienced team worker and will be accustomed to working to deadlines.
- You will also be able to prioritise and self-manage and have excellent verbal and written communication skills.
TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

Salary will be at the appropriate point on the Grade 7 salary scale, £43,414 - £51,805 per annum, and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience.

Any appointment will be made subject to satisfactory references and probation period.

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

This role is based in the UK and as such the successful candidate will be required to live and work in the UK.

Should you require a visa to undertake employment in the UK you will be required to fulfil the minimum points criteria to be granted a Certificate of Sponsorship under the requirements of the Skilled Worker visa. At the time an offer of appointment is made, you will be asked to demonstrate that you fulfil the criteria in respect of qualification and competency in English. For research and academic posts, we will consider eligibility under the Global Talent visa. Please do not hesitate to contact Grant Rae, HR Adviser (e-mail: grant.rae@abdn.ac.uk) for further information.

AT A GLANCE

SALARY:
Grade 7
£43,414 - £51,805

HOURS OF WORK:
Full-Time, 37.5 hours per week

CONTRACT TYPE:
Substantive

LOCATION:
Aberdeen
## PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<th>Education/Qualifications</th>
<th>ESSENTIAL</th>
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<td>Academic, technical and professional</td>
<td>PhD in statistics, medical statistics or a biological subject with a high</td>
<td>Recognised teaching award (for example, Advance HE fellowship) or commitment to</td>
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<td>Work and Other relevant experience (including</td>
<td>Experience and an enthusiasm to deliver high quality applied statistics</td>
<td>Experience of delivering teaching online or via blended learning</td>
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<td>teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate taught level</td>
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<td>Evidence of ability to initiate, manage and maintain scientific</td>
<td>Experience of supervising MSc/PhD student projects</td>
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<td>research</td>
<td>A track record of collaborative research with biologists and/or medical</td>
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<td>scientists, including first and co-authored publications in internationally</td>
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<td>Experience of providing statistical consultancy support</td>
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<td>High level of proficiency and experience of using R to conduct statistical</td>
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<td>Be familiar with additional statistical software such as SPSS</td>
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<td>Excellent analytical, IT and data management skills</td>
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<td>Evidence of ability to contribute to and deliver externally funded</td>
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<td>Personal qualities and abilities</td>
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<td>work on own or with others, communication</td>
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<td>• Evidence of excellent verbal and written communication skills</td>
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**Other**
e.g. special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc.
The University of Aberdeen is a broad-based, research-intensive University, and we put students at the centre of everything we do. Outstanding in a wide range of discipline areas, Aberdeen is credited for its international reach and commercialisation of research ideas into spin-out companies. The University has over 16,000 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 and inspires.

**CURRENT CONTEXT**

The University continues to uphold the principals of the foundational purpose. We remain committed to delivering positive change both locally and globally. We work together and with our partners in an interdisciplinary way, catalysing world-leading research in our areas of strength: Energy Transition; Social Inclusion and Cultural Diversity; Environment and Biodiversity; Data and Artificial Intelligence; and Health, Nutrition and Wellbeing. We are investing in our future and have committed £100m to upgrading our campus, including the new fully digitised Science Teaching Hub, the regeneration of the historic King’s Quarter and a new Business School building. Our commitment to our students, campus and community has led to us being named a Top 20 UK institution in two major league tables¹ and 4th in the UK for overall student satisfaction².

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¹ The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2023 and the Guardian University Guide 2023
² National Student Survey (NSS) 2022
ABERDEEN 2040
On our 525th anniversary as a University we launched Aberdeen 2040, our strategic vision for the next 20 years. Four strategic themes will shape our learning and discovery, underlined by 20 commitments we have made against each theme:

- **Inclusive**
  We welcome students, staff and partners from all backgrounds, organisations and communities. We value diversity.

- **Interdisciplinary**
  We innovate in education and research by generating, sharing and applying new kinds of knowledge. We learn together.

- **International**
  We connect with others and extend our networks and partnerships around the world. We think across borders.

- **Sustainable**
  We understand and nurture our environment, and take care of our resources, including our people and finances.
  We work responsibly.

**OUR EDUCATION**
Recognised as the Scottish University of the Year in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019, we remain true to our roots as an ancient Scottish university, combining breadth and depth in our degree programmes and drawing strength from the quality of our research. Our flexible curriculum encourages students to grow as independent learners and therefore to thrive as graduates in the diverse workplaces of the future. Our education is open to all and we are setting ambitious targets to further widen access.

**OUR RESEARCH**
Researchers at the University of Aberdeen have been at the forefront of innovation and excellence throughout the centuries, generating insights in medicine, science, engineering, law, social sciences, arts and humanities. This research has contributed to five Nobel prizes as well as other awards such as the Queen’s Anniversary prize. Our research is intellectually rigorous working within our established areas of excellence as well as new methods of enquiry. We will continue to generate new knowledge addressing economic and societal issues with ambition and imagination, ensuring that it is globally excellent and locally relevant.
INTERNATIONAL
Aberdeen is increasing its international presence, positioning the University as a global organisation and building on established global partnerships around the world, including Qatar, China, North America, Europe. We feature in the top 50 institutions worldwide for international students\(^3\).

IMPACT
In 2020 the University signed the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals accord, solidifying our commitment to developing the world in a sustainable way. In 2022 we were listed in the global Top 100 for 8 of these goals\(^4\).

Our highly cited work in zero-carbon technology and global outlooks makes us Scotland’s best institution for environmental research\(^5\).

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1 Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2021
2 Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2022
3 QS World University Rankings 2022
The School (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/smmsn/index.php) encompasses all of the disciplines that underpin today’s medicine, including biomedical sciences, health sciences, nutrition and medical, medical science and dental education and these are organised into five Institutes. The largest school in the University, the SMMSN has five Institutes: the Institute of Medical Sciences (IMS), the Institute of Applied Health Sciences (IAHS), the Rowett Institute, the Institute of Education in Healthcare and Medical Sciences (IEHMS) and the Institute of Dentistry, comprising all of our undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and our own graduate entry Dental School.

Staff are line managed and research opportunities are supported through our institutes which work together in an integrated and coordinated way to deliver research and teaching across the School, details of which can be found on their websites as below.

- The Institute of Applied Health Sciences https://www.abdn.ac.uk/iahs/
- The Institute of Medical Sciences http://www.abdn.ac.uk/ims/
- The Rowett Institute http://www.abdn.ac.uk/rowett/
- The Institute of Education in Healthcare and Medical Sciences https://www.abdn.ac.uk/IEHMS/
- The Institute of Dentistry https://www.abdn.ac.uk/dental/ https://www.abdn.ac.uk/dental/

Within the IMS, our scientists are working towards the creation of effective therapies for patients with a range of debilitating and life-threatening conditions. Current research areas include: arthritis and musculoskeletal medicine; cell developmental and cancer biology; immunity, infection and inflammation; metabolic and cardiovascular health; microbiology and translational neuroscience.

Within the IAHS, research is focused on improving health and health care delivery. It is home to a multidisciplinary grouping of around 100 university academic staff who conduct population and clinically-orientated health research and hosts the Health Services Research Unit (HSRU) and Health Economics Research Unit (HERU), both funded by the Chief Scientist’s Office (CSO) of the Scottish Government.

As well as being the organisational home to the teaching scholarship staff and responsible for oversight of the UG and PGT programmes offered by the School, the IEHMS promotes and supports excellence in medical education through research and development, with a focus on conceptually and theoretically robust research and development which has strong potential for reaching international recognition. The highly regarded University of Aberdeen MBChB programme and several postgraduate programmes including a Masters in Clinical Education are delivered by IEHMS.

The Dental Institute runs an undergraduate BDS programme and a growing suite of masters programmes for professional development.

We have a number of specialist Centres representing areas of particular research strength and capacity within the School all of which are willing to support colleagues on projects in their areas. More information is available at the following websites.
The Centre for Healthcare Education Research and Innovation (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/cheri/)

The Centre for Health Data Science (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/achds/)

The Aberdeen Cardiovascular & Diabetes Centre (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/acdc/) and

The Aberdeen Centre for Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Health (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/acamh/)

The School is home to over 800 staff and 2000fte students. It is located on the Foresterhill site, shared with our main clinical partner, NHS Grampian, with whom we work in close collaboration at primary and secondary care levels.

This is one of the largest integrated healthcare delivery, training and research sites in Europe and has rich assets including state-of-the-art academic (research and teaching) and clinical buildings. Excellent infrastructure is also provided through core facilities for biomedical science including flow cytometry, proteomics, microscopy and genome sequencing, support for data health science projects and clinical trials.

The last major academic capital development was the opening of the Rowett Institute, occupied in March 2016, whose staff undertakes nutrition research to help improve people’s lives through the prevention of ill-health and disease. Their new £40M building has provided the University of Aberdeen with a facility with unique capabilities for human nutrition and metabolic research.
At the heart of the school is the delivery of world class research and education (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/sbs/)

There is clear evidence that we achieve this: the school delivers a substantial contribution to the institution’s international collaboration and high citation values; there is a high student satisfaction at UG and PGT level; the school meets and exceeds competitor benchmarks for research grant income and for publication output. The school is renowned as a centre that can combine theoretical science with end-user needs and applications and to engage with industry and stakeholders. This makes for compelling impact case studies.

The institution has invested £39.5 million into a Science Teaching Hub which will deliver world class science skills training and the school is seeking innovative educationalists to capitalise fully in this opportunity. The state of the art facility will transform the way in which STEM practical classes are delivered and is fully equipped and staffed to enable this. During lockdown delivery of curriculum was online and then hybrid so the school welcomes innovative approaches that enhance the student journey.

For the Research Excellence Framework, in recent years the school has submitted in a range of Units of Assessment including 5 (Biological Sciences), 6 (Agriculture, Food and Veterinary Science) and 7 (Earth Systems and Environmental Science). This means we continue to have close collaborative research strategies with other school including Geosciences and Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition.

We have a school management structure that is underpinned by the importance of transparency and evidence-led decision making. Health, safety and wellbeing are key components in our research, education and training.

We encourage, nurture and secure independent research fellows because they deliver the highest quality cutting-edge science. Some our most successful staff have come through this pathways and secured tenure of appointment.
Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire

Scotland’s third largest city, Aberdeen sits on the coast between the mountains of Aberdeenshire and the stunning North Sea coastline. The Aberdeen City region is a can-do place that is actively investing, at scale, in its future.

Renowned as a Global Energy Hub, Aberdeen is a vibrant, entrepreneurial region, home to a unique mix of business opportunities and specialist skills across various sectors including energy, technology, life sciences and food & drink. More than 20% of Scotland’s top businesses are located in this region which is taking great strides to ensure that it continues to compete on a world stage. Investments of more than £10 billion of public and private infrastructure is due to be delivered before 2030, marking an exciting time to be part of a genuine world-class location.

Built from sparkling local granite Aberdeen has earned the name of the Silver City. As the energy capital of Europe, Aberdeen nevertheless retains its old-fashioned charm and character making it an attractive place in which to live, work and study. Due to its global business and international energy industry credentials, Aberdeen is well served by local and national transport infrastructure with excellent rail networks that run both North and South of Scotland and the rest of the UK. It also acts as an international travel hub. Flying time to London is just over one hour with regular daily flights and serves international travel to European centres such as Amsterdam (Schiphol) and Paris (Charles de-Gaulle) as well as flights to other European destinations.

The City and the surrounding countryside provide a variety of urban, seaside and country attractions. Aberdeen has first class amenities including His Majesty’s Theatre, Music Hall, Art Gallery, the P&J Arena, Museums, and Beach Leisure Centre. The City is framed by its accessible beach front which is within a short walk of the city centre and there are an array of activities available across the region such as hill walking; mountaineering; sailing; surfing; salmon, trout and sea fishing; golf; sailing; surfing and windsurfing. The surrounding countryside, known as Aberdeenshire, is also 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.

The city and the surrounding area have ranked consistently highly in nationally recognised quality of life surveys, coming out top 10 as one of the best places to live in Scotland in 2020 in the annual Bank of Scotland survey.

To find our more visit www.visitabdn.com
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

The University values a diverse working environment and recognises the benefits this can bring. The University is keen to receive applications from individuals from across all of the equality protected characteristics (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation).

The University supports opportunities for flexible working for a range of reasons and has policies in place to facilitate this. The policies can be found at https://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here/flexible-working--5607.php.

The University’s commitment to gender equality has been recognised through the achievement of an Athena SWAN Bronze award at an institutional level and across all its subject areas. The University is also a Stonewall Diversity Champion to further LGBT+ equality.

The University is signed up to Advance HE’s Race Equality Charter, affirming the University’s commitment to the charter’s aim of improving the representation, progression and success of minority ethnic staff and students within higher education.

Candidates who are British Sign Language (BSL) users can contact us directly by using contact SCOTLAND-BSL.

The University is delighted to be accredited as a Disability Confident employer and strives to ensure that disabled staff and students have the opportunity to work and study in an inclusive, accessible and supportive environment.

www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/governance/equality-and-diversity-277

HOW TO APPLY

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

The closing date for receipt of applications is 27 January 2023

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact:

Professor Amanda Lee, Director of IAHS & Chair in Medical Statistics (01224 277111 / a.j.lee@abdn.ac.uk) or Professor Alex Douglas (01224 272873 / a.douglas@abdn.ac.uk)

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Professors Lee or Douglas.

Please quote reference number IHS130A on all correspondence