



Professor in Decommissioning School of Engineering

Closing date: 6 June 2019
Interview date: To be confirmed
Reference number: ENG136A



Introduction

National Decommissioning Centre (NDC) is a multi-million pound research and development facility for decommissioning and late-life asset management.

The NDC was established in 2018 through a partnership between the University of Aberdeen and the Oil & Gas Technology Centre (OGTC), and with funding from the UK and Scottish Governments. The National Decommissioning Centre builds on the original proposal within the Aberdeen City Region Deal to leverage the combined capabilities of academia, industry and other organisations to help create competitive advantage in decommissioning within the global energy sector.

The National Decommissioning Centre in Newburgh, Aberdeenshire, includes state-of-the-art engineering laboratories and hangar space for the design and development of decommissioning technology, as well as a suite of environmental commercial testing facilities. At the heart of the Centre is the Decommissioning Immersive Collaborative Environment (DICE), a high-tech digital visualisation suite designed to enable collaboration.

The research programmes within the NDC spans a range of disciplines and schools within the University including, Engineering, Biological Sciences, Natural & Computing Sciences, Law, Geosciences and the Business School representing the breadth of research expertise relating to decommissioning and late-life asset management. Located in the centre, will be researchers and post graduate students from across the disciplines, along with industry partners creating an innovative model for academic-industry, interdisciplinary collaboration.

The School of Engineering

The School of Engineering at the University of Aberdeen is a research-intensive academic unit engaged in fundamental and applied research across five Engineering disciplines: Chemical, Civil, Electrical and Electronic, Mechanical, and Petroleum. 85% of the School's research output was ranked as world leading or internationally excellent in the 2014 UK Research Excellence Framework exercise (REF2014).

The School's research is organized under five research groupings with over 100 PhD students. We are making significant contributions to engineering science, development of new technologies and knowledge transfer to industry. At the same time, the fundamental nature of much of our research makes it applicable beyond traditional engineering. We are a General Engineering unit, with approximately 900 undergraduate students spread across 5 years of study and 350 postgraduate taught students. We offer accredited undergraduate Master of Engineering (MEng, 5 years) and Bachelor of Engineering (BEng, 4 year) degrees in Chemical, Civil, Mechanical, Petroleum and Electrical and Electronic Engineering, and a range of MSc programmes both in and outside the oil and gas area.



Job description



Main purpose of the role:

The School of Engineering at the University of Aberdeen seeks to appoint a Chair in Decommissioning to initiate and perform interdisciplinary cutting-edge research in the engineering fundamentals that underpin decommissioning and late-life asset managements in the oil & gas sector. In addition, the new chair is expected to be a major contributor and inspiration for the university's taught MSc Program in Decommissioning, the first of its kind globally. We require strong leadership in research, an excellent track record in one or more main areas associated to decommissioning and late-life such as subsea structural engineering, flow assurance, well plugging and abandonment and enhanced oil/gas recovery. This is a unique opportunity to – in close interaction with the OGTC – shape this emerging interdisciplinary branch of engineering that will play a major role in the energy transition.

Key responsibilities:

Chair in Decommissioning

Within the subject area of Decommissioning and late-life asset management the key duties and responsibilities of the Chair will be:

- to undertake cutting-edge research
- to provide leadership in the development of both fundamental and applied research
- to contribute to the ongoing development of taught programmes and to participate in the delivery of them through engaged and innovative teaching
- to strengthen and develop the University's links with industry
- to actively engage with some of the School's administrative processes
- to represent the School externally through participation in professional activities (e.g. professional institution committees, advisory bodies, research assessment panels, etc.)

At a glance

Salary:

Negotiable

Hours of work:

Full time

Contract type:

Substantive

Candidate background



We are looking for an industrially oriented academic, or an academically oriented individual from industry with a PhD degree in engineering discipline relevant to decommissioning and late-life asset management. The successful candidate is a leader in research & development and has an excellent track record in research and technology development witnessed through papers and/or patents. Experience with commercialization of research and development outcomes is highly desirable, as is a chartered engineer (CEng) status. .

Terms of appointment

A competitive remuneration package will be available for exceptional candidates considered at Professorial level.

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 financial maintenance and competency in English. Please do not hesitate to contact Heather Clark, HR Adviser on +44 (0)1224 273244 or email h.m.clark@abdn.ac.uk for further information.



Person specification

	<i>Essential</i>	<i>Desirable</i>
Education/Qualifications Academic, technical and professional education and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>PhD in an engineering discipline.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Chartered engineer (CEng) status</i>
Work and Other relevant experience (including training) eg Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>An excellent and demonstrable track record in research and development</i> • <i>Demonstrable ability to initiate, develop, and lead research projects</i> • <i>Experience in the development and delivery of taught courses at the undergraduate and post graduate level</i> • <i>International recognition through invited lectures, research visits, honours.</i> • <i>Experience in managing major research and development projects</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Experience with commercialization of research results</i> • <i>Experience with intellectual property rights development</i>
Personal qualities and abilities eg initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Excellent written, oral and presentation skills</i> • <i>Ability to think "out-of-the-box"</i> • <i>Ability and willingness to work in a multidisciplinary environment</i> • <i>Team player</i> • <i>Leadership and management skills</i> 	
Other eg special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc.		

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) and Paris (Charles De-Gaulle) as well as flights to other European destinations. <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



How to apply



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

The closing date for receipt of applications is 6 June 2019

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact
Professor Igor Guz, Head of School
01224 272808
i.guz@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Professor Guz

Please quote reference number ENG136A on all correspondence

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

In order to further enhance its diversity, the School particularly welcomes applications from women who are currently underrepresented in the School.