



**The
National
Decommissioning
Centre**

Innovation through Partnership



**UNIVERSITY OF
ABERDEEN**



**The
Oil & Gas
Technology
Centre**

Your Innovation Partner



Research Fellow

NATIONAL DECOMMISSIONING CENTRE

Closing date: 17 June 2020

Interview date: TBC

Reference number: ENG152R



Introduction

The National Decommissioning Centre (NDC) and Chevron Corporation have entered into a partnership that will fund a portfolio of research projects aiming to better quantify the environmental effects of decommissioning and provide guidance on the best options from an environmental perspective.

The partnership is looking to recruit an enthusiastic research fellow with broad expertise in subsea engineering and marine sciences.

An exciting opportunity is available at the NDC to be part of a 3-year project partnered by Chevron Corporation. The research programme is interdisciplinary, working across engineering and biological sciences to minimise detrimental effects of decommissioning activities and maximise opportunities to enhance the marine environment.

The successful appointee will be working closely with Chevron personnel in the UK and internationally.

The research fellow will be based at the NDC (<https://www.ukndc.com/>), a £38m research and development facility for decommissioning and late-life asset management. This centre of excellence was established with government support, through a partnership between the Oil and Gas Technology Centre (OGTC) and the University of Aberdeen.

The NDC, based in Newburgh, Aberdeenshire, includes a high-tech digital visualisation suite designed to enable collaboration, state-of-the-art engineering laboratories and a hangar space for the design and development of decommissioning technology, as well as a suite of environmental commercial testing facilities. The most recent investment has been in a state-of-the-art, real-time, real-physics marine simulator with a 300-degree immersive environment and 4 control stations. The system is capable of simulating and displaying in real-time the interaction between vessels, cranes, remote operated vehicles, structures and the seabed with realistic environmental conditions for wind, wave current etc.



Job description



Main purpose of the role:

The Research Fellow will work with the funder and other stakeholders to develop better understanding of the environmental effects of decommissioning within a multidisciplinary framework.

Key responsibilities:

Research Fellow

- *Project oversight and management of Chevron objectives, providing marine science or engineering support where required.*
- *Facilitation of knowledge exchange between industrial and academic partners to contextualise scientific work products, laboratory and modelling protocols and support their dissemination and application in real-world international energy industry decommissioning projects.*
- *Active contribution towards the development of guidelines for long-term degradation modelling of offshore infrastructure post-decommissioning*
- *Contributing to the development, maintenance and support, of sensors for monitoring offshore sub-sea man-made structures.*
- *Assisting in fieldwork where required.*
- *Ability to undertake independent research on decommissioning in liaison and with NDC and Chevron objectives.*
- *Ongoing liaison with PhD students working on Chevron funded decommissioning-related research in the UK and internationally, other academics and service companies to support alignment with project goals.*

At a glance

Salary:

£33,797 - £40,323 per annum

Hours of work:

Full Time

Contract type:

Funding Limited – 3 years

Candidate background



The successful candidate will be expected to have an in-depth understanding of offshore systems, both from engineering and marine environment perspectives.

The project will involve extensive interactions with Chevron personnel, and as such the candidate should be able to comfortably work with experts from different specialities based in different international locations while disseminating the outcomes with high confidence.

Further details are given in the 'Person specification' section.



Terms of appointment

Salary will be at the appropriate point on the Grade 6 salary scale (£33,797 - £40,323 per annum) and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience.

Any appointment will be made subject to satisfactory references and a 12 month probation period.

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 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 a relevant engineering discipline or marine science, with expert knowledge of offshore environment'</i> • <i>A minimum of 2:1 MEng or BSc or MSc degree in engineering or marine science</i> • <i>Specialist experience in offshore subsea engineering or marine science applications</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Broad science understanding of sub-sea engineering and marine sciences</i>
Work and Other relevant experience (including training) eg Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Flexibility to learn and excel in related unexplored technical topics</i> • <i>Report writing skills for both interdisciplinary knowledge dissemination and technical writing</i> • <i>Presentation of technical information and results</i> • <i>Excellent understanding of the marine environment, relevant materials</i> • <i>Credible understanding of environmental and analytical chemistry</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Experience of working with industrial funders and partners.</i> • <i>Experience in engaging with regulators</i> • <i>Knowledge of the chemical composition of fluids interacting with man-made underwater structures.</i> • <i>Experience in use and servicing of underwater sensors.</i> • <i>Contributions to writing academic articles and presentation at national/ international symposia/ conferences</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 organisational and communication skills.</i> • <i>Ability to work independently and with multi-disciplinary teams.</i> • <i>Ability to take initiative and enthusiastically manage a project.</i> 	
Other e.g. special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Some travel to international locations will be required.</i> • <i>Occasional calls out of normal work hours will be required.</i> 	

The University

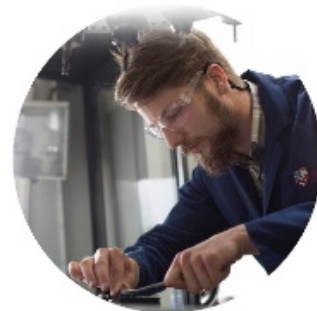


Founded in 1495, Aberdeen is Scotland's third oldest University and the fifth oldest in the UK. Ranked within the world top 160 in the Times Higher Education Rankings 2019 and named Scottish University of the Year in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019. Aberdeen is 'open to all and 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 Oil and Gas Technology Centre

Launched in February 2017, the Oil & Gas Technology Centre is a not-for-profit, research and knowledge company, which aims to become the go-to technology centre for the oil and gas industry in the UK and globally.

With £180 million funding from the UK and Scottish Governments, through the Aberdeen City Region Deal, the Centre inspires and accelerates innovation, co-investing in industry-led projects to take new technologies from concept through to deployment in the oil field.

Its goals are to unlock the full potential of the UK North Sea, anchor the supply chain in North-East Scotland, and create a culture of innovation that attracts industry and academia to the region.



human energy®

Chevron Corporation is one of the world's leading integrated energy companies. Through its subsidiaries that conduct business worldwide, the company is involved in virtually every facet of the energy industry. Chevron explores for, produces and transports crude oil and natural gas; refines, markets and distributes transportation fuels and lubricants; manufactures and sells petrochemicals and additives; generates power; and develops and deploys technologies that enhance business value in every aspect of the company's operations. Chevron is based in San Ramon, Calif. More information about Chevron is available at www.chevron.com.

Chevron values integrity, trust, diversity and ingenuity as a company and in our employees. In the UK, Chevron has offices in London and Aberdeen including its office of the Energy Technology Company (ETC.) This complements existing major technology centers operated by ETC in the United States. The centres provide research, development and technical support to Chevron's upstream, downstream, global gas and emerging energy businesses around the world.

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) and Frankfurt 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 17 June 2020

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact
Dr Srinivas Sriramula at s.sriramula@abdn.ac.uk and/or Professor Graeme Paton
at g.i.paton@abdn.ac.uk and/or Professor Paul Fernandes at fernandespg@abdn.ac.uk

Please **do not send** application forms or CVs to Dr Sriramula, Professor Paton or
Professor Fernandes

Please quote reference number ENG152R on all correspondence

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