

# Research Hydrogeologist / Fellow

Department	Civil and Environmental Engineering ( <a href="http://www.strath.ac.uk/civeng/">www.strath.ac.uk/civeng/</a> )		
Faculty	Faculty of Engineering ( <a href="http://www.strath.ac.uk/engineering/">www.strath.ac.uk/engineering/</a> )		
Staff Category	Research	Reference No	38033
Reports To	Prof Robert M Kalin	Grade:	8
Salary Range:	£38,896	Contract Type:	Fixed Term (24 months)
FTE:	1	Closing Date	Monday, 30 May 2016

## Job Advert

The Faculty of Engineering at the University of Strathclyde is one of the largest and most successful engineering faculties in the UK, and the largest in Scotland. As a leading international technological university, Strathclyde University is recognised for its world class research, knowledge exchange and educational programmes. The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering is recognised nationally and internationally for its excellence in teaching and research in Water Resource Management and Hydrogeological Sciences.

Strathclyde's Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering has been awarded £2 million over the next two years to extend the Climate Justice Water Futures programme, which is being led by Professor Robert Kalin. The funding will help more communities in the Lower Shire Basin in rural Malawi access groundwater resources protected from the impacts of climate change. The project will offer expert support and advice on groundwater resource management to communities vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change, and aims to deliver improved water access across seven districts in the region.

The Department seeks to appoint a Research Fellow (Hydrogeologist) for a period of 2 years to work on the Climate Justice Water Futures Programme. You will work with Prof Robert M Kalin to underpin the field and office based implementation of this funded project. The Research Fellow (Hydrogeologist) will lead the planning, implementation and supervision of field data collection and research in Malawi, interpretation and publication of research outcomes, provision of short courses and other training, co-supervision of MSc research projects and other duties as directed by Prof Kalin.

To be considered for the role, you will be educated to a minimum of PhD Level in a relevant discipline or you will be an experienced Hydrogeologist with equivalent experience in a related field. You will have experience in one or more of the following relevant areas: Field Hydrogeology, GIS, Groundwater Flow Modelling, Geochemistry, Geophysics. The successful candidate will have a proven self-motivated research experience, experience of planning and conducting your own research; will be able to demonstrate effective contribution to the delivery of research projects within an academic or international development environment. You will have excellent written and verbal communication skills and excellent presentation skills.

## Job Description

### Brief Outline of Job:

To independently lead the planning, implementation and supervision of field data collection and research in Malawi. You will work with the PI and Project Partners to interpret a region which currently has had little hydrogeological investigation. You will regularly publish research papers in appropriate high quality journal publications; to engage where required in relevant teaching and professional knowledge exchange (KE) activities; and input to administrative tasks as assigned by the Project leader, Professor Kalin.

### Main Activities/Responsibilities:

1. Engage as an independent researcher in individual and collaborative research with Professor Kalin establishing a

	distinctive programme of research and disseminating results through regular publications in high impact journals, books and conference proceedings.
2.	Manage a research team (students and staff), providing direction, support and guidance
3.	Participate in and develop external networks to foster research collaborations, to inform the development of research objectives and to identify potential sources of funding
4.	Support Distance Learning and knowledge exchange activities as guided by Prof Kalin
5.	To supervise student MSc Research Projects in Scotland and Malawi, provide advice to students and contribute to teaching as required, for example supervising practical work.
6.	Plan and Undertake Field Work in Malawi and to provide Training Workshops in Malawi
7.	Engage in continuous professional development

## Person Specification

### Educational and/or Professional Qualifications

(E=Essential, i.e. a candidate must meet all essential criteria to be considered for selection, D=Desirable)

E1 Good honours degree and PhD (or equivalent professional experience) in Hydrogeology or related discipline

D1 A body of published research in high quality publications demonstrating standards of excellence

### Experience

E2 Considerable research experience in a relevant discipline

E3 A demonstrable track record in a relevant professional field

E4 Evident ability to conduct individual research work, to disseminate results through conference and/or journal publications and to prepare research proposals.

E5 A body of published research in high quality publications demonstrating standards of excellence.

### Job Related Skills and Achievements

E6 Demonstrable experience of planning, organising and successfully delivering research projects in a timely manner.

D2 Experience of planning and organising workload, including the ability to supervise and delegate work. Some experience of teaching at undergraduate and / or postgraduate levels.

### Personal Attributes

E7 Ability to plan and organise own workload effectively, with evidence of having successfully completed research tasks and projects to both interim and final milestones.

E8 Excellent written and verbal communication skills with the ability to listen, engage and persuade, and to present complex information in an accessible way to a range of audiences

### Other Relevant Factors

E9 Willingness to work in Malawi for 1 month periods.

## Application Procedure

Applicants are required to complete an application form including the name of three referees who will be contacted before interview without further permission, unless you indicate that you would prefer otherwise. Applicants should also submit a Curriculum Vitae and a covering letter detailing the knowledge, skills and experience you think make you the right candidate for the job. Applicants should also complete the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form.

## Other Information

Further information on the application process and working at Strathclyde can be found on our website (<http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr/workforus>).

Informal enquiries about the post can be directed to Dr Doug Bertram, Knowledge Exchange Fellow (+44 (0)141 548 3251 [douglas.bertram@strath.ac.uk](mailto:douglas.bertram@strath.ac.uk)).

### **Pre-employment health screening**

An offer of appointment will be subject to a medical assessment by Occupational Health. An individual who accepts an offer of employment must complete a confidential medical questionnaire and forward it to the Occupational Health Nurse within 5 days of receipt. If further information is required the individual may be contacted by the OHN or a Medical Advisor and a personal appointment with the individual may be arranged. An unconditional contract of employment will not be issued until Human Resources receives confirmation that applicant is fit to undertake the duties of the post.

### **Probation**

Where applicable, the successful applicant will be required to serve a 12 month probationary period.

### **Pension**

The successful applicant will be eligible to join the Universities' Superannuation Scheme. Further information regarding this scheme is available from [Payroll and Pensions](#).

### **Interviews**

Formal interviews for this post will be held on either Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016 or Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

### **Equality and Diversity**

We value diversity and welcome applications from all sections of the community.

The University currently holds a Bronze Athena SWAN award, recognising our commitment to advancing women's careers in science, technology, engineering, maths and medicine (STEMM) employment in academia.



# Conditions of Employment

## Research Staff

### 1. GENERAL CONDITIONS

Members of staff are subject to the Charter and Statutes and the Ordinances and Regulations of the University, published in the Calendar, and to any amendments or additions thereto approved by the University Court and, in the case of the Charter and Statutes, the Privy Council. Staff are also expected to familiarise themselves with, and adhere to, general University policies and procedures, as published on University web pages.

The University Court recognises Strathclyde Universities and College Union (SUCU) as the sole body with which it will negotiate and consult on all collective issues concerned with the terms and conditions of employment of Research Staff. Such terms and conditions may be varied by the University Court after negotiation and consultation with SUCU.

Each member of staff is responsible for the proper performance of allocated duties to the person or persons specified in the member of staff's letter of appointment and any accompanying papers.

The University is committed to ensuring that its business is conducted in an open and transparent manner and will take all appropriate steps to address risks of bribery or corruption. Members of staff are required at all times to act honestly and with integrity and to safeguard the resources for which they are responsible. The University has in place a robust Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblowing) Policy to enable concerns to be brought to its attention. This is available at [www.strath.ac.uk/publicinterestdisclosure](http://www.strath.ac.uk/publicinterestdisclosure). Other relevant policies, e.g. Fraud Prevention and Conflicts of Interests, can also be found on the University's website.

Any member of staff may at any time be exposed to commercially sensitive information, information related to potentially valuable intellectual property or information which may otherwise be of a confidential nature. This information, which could be found anywhere in the University, may be written or disclosed orally, can include information of a commercial or technical nature, and may be owned by the University or by third parties. The University requires all employees to keep any such information confidential in the first instance and not disclose, publish or otherwise disseminate it without prior consent of the University. Such confidentiality obligations are commonplace and in the commercial interests of the University. When in doubt advice should always be sought from Research and Knowledge Exchange Services prior to disclosure.

The University operates probationary periods for new staff, the duration of which will be specified in individual letters of appointment. The normal probation period for posts in this staff category is 9 months for those at grades 6 and 7, and 12 months for grades 8 and above. Further guidance on probationary procedures is published at <http://www.strath.ac.uk/staff/policies/hr/>.

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Further information on the terms and conditions specified in this document and other staffing policies and procedures can also be found at [www.strath.ac.uk/hr](http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr).

### 2. SALARY

Appointments are made at an appropriate salary point on the University's grading structure, with initial placing determined according to qualifications and experience. Increments are paid to staff on the 12 month anniversary of their appointment. Where this is not the first of the month, the increment will be paid on the first of the month directly

after the 12 month anniversary. This allows 1 progression to the next point on the salary scale until the top guaranteed point of the scale is reached.

Salaries are paid directly to staff members nominated bank account, normally on the second last working day of the month.

### 3. HOURS OF WORK

Working time is that required to fulfil the duties of the post. The University Court recognises that research staff carry out these duties in a variety of ways appropriate to the nature of the research activity, but expects regular contact to take place between the research staff employee and the supervisor/granholder (where these positions are occupied by different individuals) during normal working hours on week days. There are exceptions to this pattern which may involve contact at other locations or in the evenings, or at weekends, but these arrangements will be made with the agreement of the member of staff concerned.

Duties may, by arrangement with Head of Department/School/Director, include some teaching associated with the post (up to a maximum of 40 hours per semester) for which no additional payment will be made.

Additional work which does not fall within the scope of that described above may by arrangement attract payment which must be authorised and processed through the payroll.

### 4. HOLIDAYS

Annual leave entitlement is 31 days per year to be taken by agreement with the line manager. For staff members working on a part-time basis, holidays will be calculated on a pro-rata basis.

In addition to annual leave there is an entitlement to eleven public holidays per year which should be taken on days that the University is closed for this purpose. The University presently closes for four additional days over the Christmas and New Year period. **These additional days count against the annual leave entitlement.**

For staff members working on a part-time basis, public holiday entitlement will be calculated on a pro-rata basis.

Annual leave and public holiday entitlements should be taken in the leave year to which they relate. Up to five days leave can be carried forward into the new leave year subject to line management agreement. In exceptional circumstances, Heads of Department/School/Director may approve carry forward of accrued annual leave in excess of five days.

The University's expectation is that staff take all accrued holidays prior to their termination date. If staff have exceeded their entitlement the University will deduct an equivalent number of days pay from final salary payments.

## 5. SICKNESS ABSENCE

During any period of absence through illness or injury provided the appropriate notification and certification procedures have been followed the University will pay a member of staff (having taken account of the aggregate of all periods of absence due to illness during the twelve months immediately preceding the first day of the current absence) as follows:

Period of Continuous Employment at start of absence from work	Full Pay	Half Pay
Less than 1 year	1 month	1 month
1 year but less than 2 years	2 months	2 months
2 years but less than 3 years	4 months	4 months
3 years but less than 5 years	5 months	5 months
5 years or more	6 months	6 months

In order to manage the University's sick pay scheme the University requires to maintain sickness absence records on individual members of staff. When making payments after the expiry of statutory sick pay the University will deduct an amount equivalent to any benefit normally payable by the Department of Work and Pensions. For full details on the general University policy in this area please refer to the Sickness Absence Management Policy at [www.strath.ac.uk/staff/policies/hr](http://www.strath.ac.uk/staff/policies/hr).

## 6. PENSIONS

New members of staff, aged under 75, will be admitted automatically to membership of the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) on taking up appointment. If you are already in receipt of a USS pension you will join USS in accordance with pension auto-enrolment regulations. USS requires a contribution from the member, currently 8 per cent of pensionable salary. A contribution, currently 18 per cent of pensionable salary, is paid by the University. From 1 April 2016 all members are part of the career revalued benefits scheme called the USS Retirement Income Builder. From 1 October 2016 a threshold, initially of £55,000 a year, will apply to the maximum salary that counts towards the USS Retirement Income Builder. From the same date a new defined contribution section of the scheme called USS Investment Builder will open and any contributions above the threshold will be invested in this section. The exception to automatic membership of the pension scheme applies if your post is located out with the UK in an EU member state. If this is the case membership of USS is not available to you.

New members of staff may opt out of USS within three months of taking up appointment and will then be treated as if they had never been a member of the scheme. After three months members of staff who wish to withdraw from USS during their employment will be required to give a minimum of 28 days' notice in writing to the University. Any member of staff who wishes to opt out should contact the Pensions Section, Finance, in the first instance ([pensions@strath.ac.uk](mailto:pensions@strath.ac.uk)). Please note that if you are a member of Pensions Plus and withdraw from USS with less than two years of membership, or cease employment with the University and have less than two years of USS membership, the option of a refund of pension contributions will not be available to you. Instead, USS must provide you with a pension benefit that is payable from your retirement date.

The University reserves the right to alter or withdraw Pensions Plus as it sees fit or as required to comply with legislative changes. Withdrawal or amendment of Pensions Plus will not affect your membership of USS. If you do not wish to participate in Pensions Plus but wish to remain in the pension scheme please contact the Pensions Team who will provide you with a non-participation form.

Information regarding pension scheme membership can be found on the Pensions pages of the University's website. Full information regarding USS can be found on the USS website – [www.uss.co.uk](http://www.uss.co.uk)

## 7. PLACE OF WORK AND RESIDENCE

Members of staff will be based on the John Anderson Campus, unless otherwise stated in the letter of appointment. The Department/School in which the post is initially placed will be specified in the letter of

appointment although there will be an expectation to work at such other places as required in the course of employment.

If the need arises for members of staff to work outside the UK for a period (or periods) of more than one month then such arrangements will be subject to mutual agreement. Members of staff would then be provided with a statement in advance setting out the terms covering such periods of employment.

The University does not normally place specific restrictions upon the place of residence of members of staff. All staff are, however, expected to reside in a location which is compatible with the satisfactory fulfilment of all the duties associated with their appointment.

## 8. CONSULTANCY/FURTHER ACTIVITIES

To support the strategic objectives of the University and to facilitate individual professional development, the University encourages staff to engage in professional activities with outside bodies related to their field of work. In many cases, such activity will be approved on the basis that it represents University knowledge exchange activity and should therefore be treated as part of the individual's overall workload and managed through the University's systems. It is also recognised that there will be some cases where an activity is entirely separate from the University and should thus be notified/approved as a personal business activity. For further information please refer to the "University Procedure in relation to Work for Outside Bodies including Consultancies", which forms part of the employment contract and can be accessed at [www.strath.ac.uk/hr](http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr)

## 9. DISCIPLINARY AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Further information on the University's disciplinary and grievance procedure can also be found at [www.strath.ac.uk/policies/hr](http://www.strath.ac.uk/policies/hr) or on request from Human Resources.

## 10. NOTICE AND TERMINATION

Members of staff are employed on the conditions indicated in individual letters of appointment and any accompanying papers. The University is not obliged to give notice of termination or continue any employment beyond the end of that period. Where the period of the contract of employment is for one year or less it may be terminated short of the fixed term period by one months notice on either side. Where the period of the contract of employment is for more than one year, or where there have been a further contract or series of contracts immediately consecutive, the employment may be terminated short of the fixed term period by three months' notice on either side, except during the probationary period when the notice period is one month.

If the appointment is for a fixed term it will expire at the end of the period without the necessity for notice.

Revised April 2016