

# Administrative Assistant

Department	Mathematics and Statistics ( <a href="http://www.strath.ac.uk/mathstat/">www.strath.ac.uk/mathstat/</a> )		
Faculty	Faculty of Science ( <a href="http://www.strath.ac.uk/science/">www.strath.ac.uk/science/</a> )		
Staff Category	Administrative and Professional	Reference No	35055
Reports To	The Head of Department through Line Management	Grade:	3
Salary Range:	£16,017 - £18,212	Contract Type:	Open Contract
FTE:	1 (35 hours/week)	Closing Date	Sunday, 27 March 2016

## Job Advert

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics seeks to appoint an Administrative Assistant to provide departmental and office support in a busy academic department. Applicants will be educated to a minimum of Higher level or equivalent, or will have relevant experience in a similar role in order to be considered for this position. The ability to communicate effectively with staff, students and members of the public is important with accuracy and attention to detail essential.

Candidates will have excellent verbal and written communication skills, good interpersonal skills and will have an excellent working knowledge of Microsoft Office programmes, in particular Word and Excel. Additionally, the successful candidate will be expected to undertake training in other in-house IT packages when required, and to develop knowledge and understanding through the use of University systems. Candidates will possess good team-working skills, and will have the ability to pace their workload within a busy office environment. The successful candidate will join the office support team who all have designated duties and be expected to undertake other duties as required.

## Job Description

### Brief Outline of Job:

To provide support for a broad range of administrative duties as part of the departmental administration team. The candidate will work in a busy office environment, be willing to take on tasks as directed, as well as having the ability to use their own initiative.

### Main Activities/Responsibilities:

1.	Dealing with enquiries from undergraduate, postgraduate students and members of academic staff.
2.	Responding to general enquiries and correspondence, including drafting letters and/or emails.
3.	Undertaking standard tasks within established routines and procedures.
4.	Offering administrative support and assistance in relation to teaching, including support for coursework submission, tutorial attendance, programme support, including monitoring and recording of information.
5.	Providing secretarial and administrative support to relevant undergraduate Year Co-ordinators.
6.	Production of examination papers and documentation.
7.	Providing support and assistance to departmental research groups.
8.	Use of University on-line procurement system to order goods, services, travel, hotel accommodation, and catering for

	events and meetings.
9.	Updating of departmental web page information via use of content management system.
10.	Organisation of and minute taking at departmental committees.
11.	Undertake other general clerical or secretarial duties assigned by the Faculty Administrator.

## 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)

E.1 Educated to a minimum of higher level, or equivalent, or equivalent relevant experience

### Experience

E.2 Relevant administrative/secretarial experience in an office environment

D.1 Experience of working in a Higher Education environment or equivalent

D.2 Use or knowledge of content management system to update web pages

D.3 Experience of working with University of Strathclyde IT systems

### Job Related Skills and Achievements

E.3 Accuracy and attention to detail

E.4 Excellent IT skills, including Outlook, Word and Excel

E.5 Ability to plan own workload and a flexible approach to work

D.4 Experience of organising meetings and minute taking

### Personal Attributes

E.6 Willingness to learn and develop knowledge and understanding through use of University systems

E.7 Excellent verbal, written and communication skills

E.8 Ability to work well as part of a team

E.9 Good organisational skills

## Application Procedure

Applicants are required to complete an application form including the name of two referees who will be contacted before interview without further permission, unless you indicate that you would prefer otherwise. 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 either Sandra Miller Departmental Administrator, [s.j.miller@strath.ac.uk](mailto:s.j.miller@strath.ac.uk) Tel 0141 548 3598 or Mary McAuley Senior Secretary, [mcauley@strath.ac.uk](mailto:mcauley@strath.ac.uk) Tel 0141 548 3804.

### Probation

Where applicable, the successful applicant will be required to serve a 6 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](#).

### Relocation

Where applicable, the University offers a relocation package to support new employees who meet the eligibility criteria. The relocation package is offered as a contribution towards costs incurred, and is designed to be flexible, allowing staff to use the financial support available in the way that will be most helpful to them. Further details are outlined in the Relocation Policy.

## **Interviews**

Formal interviews for this post will be held on Monday, 11 April 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

## Administrative and Professional Services Staff Grades 3 to 5

### 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 UNISON as the sole body with which it will negotiate and consult on all collective issues concerned with the terms and conditions of employment of Administrative and Professional Services staff in Grades 3 to 5. Such terms and conditions may be varied by the University Court after negotiation and consultation with UNISON.

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. Members of staff may not accept outside paid work including personal consultancies without the permission of the University, which will not be unreasonably withheld.

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 6 months. Further guidance on probationary procedures is published at <http://www.strath.ac.uk/staff/policies/hr/>.

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 1 August each year, when the employee has a minimum of 6 full months of service, allowing 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

The normal working week is 35 hours. Unless otherwise indicated in an individual's letter of appointment, the normal hours are 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday with a one hour lunch break. Certain members of staff may be required to work some hours outwith this normal pattern and this should be agreed locally.

### 4. HOLIDAYS

Annual leave entitlement is 27 days per year to be taken by agreement with the line manager. For staff members working on a part-time basis, annual leave entitlement 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/equivalent 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 to membership of the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) on taking up appointment. USS requires a contribution from the member (currently 6.5 per cent of salary for the Career Revalued Benefits section of the scheme and 7.5 per cent for the Final Salary section), to which a contribution of salary is added by the University as required by USS. If a new member of staff has previously been a member of USS and re-joins the scheme on or after 1 October 2011 they will be eligible to re-join the Final Salary section of the scheme if they:

- Have left before 1 October 2011 and have deferred benefits in USS and re-join before 1 April 2014; or
- Have left or leave the Final Salary section after 30 September 2011 and re-join the scheme within 30 months of leaving.

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)).

Information regarding pension scheme membership can be found on the Finance webpage. 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. 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.

## **9. NOTICE AND TERMINATION**

The employment of a member of staff is terminable by at least one month's notice, in writing, on either side, except during the probationary period when the notice period is one week. If notice is being given by a member of staff earlier release may be granted if this can be arranged without detriment to the work of the department or area. If the appointment is for a fixed term period it will expire at the end of the period without the necessity for notice. Fixed term contracts may be terminated by either party short of the expiry date by the serving of one month's notice in writing. The University is not obliged to continue a fixed term appointment beyond the specified employment period.