



UNIVERSITY OF
LINCOLN

UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE	Associate Professor in Rural and Coastal Dental and Oral Health Research				
ACADEMIC PROFILE	Teaching and Research				
DEPARTMENT	Lincoln Medical School/Lincoln Institute for Rural and Coastal Health				
LOCATION	Lincoln Campuses				
JOB NUMBER	CHS256	GRADE	9	DATE	July 2025
REPORTS TO	Dean of Lincoln Medical School				

CONTEXT

At the heart of one of the world's great historic cities, research at the University of Lincoln engages in transforming lives and communities. In recent years the city has seen significant investment in redeveloping areas of the city centre. The Lincoln Institute of Agriculture and Technology was awarded the prestigious Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher Education in 2023, positioning the University at the centre of regional growth throughout Lincolnshire County.

The University of Lincoln plays a unique role in regional development in health and climate adaptation, with strong ties to NHS Trusts and environmental organizations.

The University has recently announced plans to develop the Lincoln Institute for Dental and Oral Health (LIDOH), of which a key component is the development of novel oral health research in conjunction with the Lincoln Institute of Rural and Coastal Health (LIRCH). This exciting development is associated with significant investment into resources such as state of the art dental education training facilities, as well as new dental programmes in Dental Hygiene and Therapy. This is a foundational step as part of the Universities strategic ambitions to progress to a dental school in the near future.

This key strategic role will be responsible for the development and delivery of an innovative new research agenda with a particular focus on oral health in rural and coastal communities. Applicants should be able to demonstrate experience of leadership within oral health research and establishing new research strategies that attract significant funding.

As a core member of the senior leadership team, you will work closely with colleagues from across the Lincoln Medical School (LMS), the wider LIDOH and LIRCH teams as well as the wider university and external health network to lead on this new research area into a firm strategic plan.

This post is jointly funded between the Lincolnshire Institute of Dental and Oral Health (LIDOH) and the Lincoln Institute for Rural and Coastal Health (LIRCH). The LIDOH and LIRCH work closely together to address the health based inequities and inequalities faced by rural and coastal communities through a multidisciplinary approach.

Lincoln Institute for Rural and Coastal Health

The Lincoln Institute for Rural and Coastal Health (LIRCH) is the country's first integrated and multidisciplinary research institute dedicated to rural and coastal health research. LIRCH has been awarded £10.9 million funding from Research England's Expanding Excellence in England

(E3) fund and is in the process of significant expansion. As part of this expansion, the University will recruit to over twenty research positions. A technical and professional services team will also be embedded within the Institute to support the research and develop a financially sustainable research Institute.

With this expanded capacity, the Institute will facilitate interdisciplinarity to produce impactful research helping to tackle the place-based inequalities experienced by rural, coastal, and remote communities. The LIRCH team works closely with research groups across the university, including in the Natural Sciences and the College of Health and Science. LIRCH aims to create the future academic and community leaders of rural and coastal health. Appointed Professors will be pivotal in achieving this by playing an active role in co-designing and shaping the emerging discipline, alongside affected communities, and leading research excellence with a strong focus on regional impact.

Associate Professors

Associate Professors (APs) with an academic profile of Teaching and Research at the University of Lincoln are recognised among their peers as research leaders who have achieved a high standard of scholarship and have a substantial record of on-going research of international quality. Associate Professors will be expected to have an appropriate balance of research and teaching within their portfolio and to evidence potential to progress to a professorial appointment.

Associate Professors are also recognised among their peers as leaders in the development in teaching strategies within their discipline or the scholarship of teaching. They hold a substantial record in curriculum development and leadership and in successful and innovative research led teaching practice.

Please note, this is not a clinical role.

JOB PURPOSE

This Associate Professor position will undertake a leadership role in Oral Health research within Lincolnshire Institute of Dental and Oral Health (LIDOH) and the Lincoln Institute for Rural and Coastal Health (LIRCH) and engage the University of Lincoln with activities and practitioners beyond the University with particular emphasis on the solutions required for optimal oral health of rural, coastal and dispersed communities .

This role will be a senior leadership position to set the strategic direction for oral health research as part of working with the LIDOH, identifying a clear focused plan of research priorities in this area and establish the funding opportunities and networks to realise these plans. This is a pivotal role as part of establishing our LIDOH offer into unique and impactful oral health research
This role will also be involved in the research delivery of oral health projects working within both the LIDOH and LIRCH to drive the reputation and knowledge exchange potential within this area for the region and beyond.

To generate high quality personal research outcomes and outputs, provide leadership in the development of research initiatives, and to contribute to research-related teaching and learning.

To contribute to the development and management of the School with involvement in College activities and provide academic leadership over a subject area or range of programmes including leadership in an area of research.

Dental and oral health represents a complex of significant oral health challenges characterised by entrenched inequalities. These challenges are multi-factorial, stemming from workforce recruitment and retention; the current NHS dental contract; geographical isolation; and the absence of efficient preventative strategies and service integration to enable access to timely, effective oral health care. These challenges are compounded by drivers unique to rural and coastal settings. This joint post between LIDOH and LIRCH would align well with an individual who has interdisciplinary research, policy and advocacy interests and expertise in community dentistry or dental public health that could be applied to rural and coastal populations.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Research
An Associate Professor (T&R) enhances and promotes the research culture in the subject area and contributes to the strategic development of research in their School or College, including by: • Demonstrating a strong international profile within their discipline (e.g. invitations as keynote speakers, advisory board/committee membership, journal editorial board membership) • Facilitate the development of a Oral Health research strategy working with a network of impactful stakeholders in this area and develop an associated plan to deliver the research priorities. • Ensure research has associated funding and contributes to the wider ambitions of the University of Lincoln, LIDOH and LIRCH to make our research stand out as novel and reputable. • Lead a strategic set of workshops with key stakeholders nationally and internationally to support the development of a new oral health strategy for the university. • Conducting research of an international standard • Publishing (or equivalent) research outputs of internationally excellent quality. • Have sufficient outputs to be returned in the REF at a high standard inclusive of complex circumstances. • Developing externally funded research projects and acting as PI on medium-sized research grants. • Working (independently and in multidisciplinary teams) on the writing of bids to external funding sources. • Contributing to research impact by participating in relevant research groups/committees, leading or contributing to impact case studies and engaging with activities that contribute towards the cultivation of an environment of impact • Linking their research profile to education and the professional sector as appropriate • Developing links with relevant local, national and international organisations with a view to enhancing research in cognate fields • Contributing to research development events and coaching and mentoring colleagues in the development of their research profiles • Building a team of, and supervising, postgraduate researchers to timely completions
Teaching and Learning Support
Undertaking teaching at undergraduate and/or postgraduate levels and carrying out all related activities, achieving good sustained levels of student progression and feedback. The range of teaching duties may change from time to time Facilitate, develop, lead and support innovations in the teaching activities and curriculum development and delivery of the School and wider University Support the design and development of new or existing programmes, advising on ways to enhance the quality of engagement and influence of discipline specific professionals and enrich the student experience with a focus on employability through practitioner or employer led engagement Work with others to develop College policy that influences and promotes effective research in all aspects of the student learning experience Develop, implement and manage a community of practice to support staff new to teaching within the school to engage in research If appropriate, lead a subject area or range of programmes and resolve problems affecting the quality of course delivery and student progress within own areas of responsibility

Liaison and Networking

Work within an extended network or community suitable to their discipline, which can impact positively on the work of the University

Take a lead role in the application of these networks to enacting the University mission and strategy

Promote the reputation of the University within the wider higher education community through publications, contributions to conferences and liaison within the relevant subject centre

Liaise with and develop internal networks, for example by chairing and participating in institutional committees

Lead, develop and contribute to relevant external networks, professional, national or international bodies such as Higher Education Committees and high level advisory groups

Monitor external funding opportunities and assist the College and the University in securing external funding

Interact and collaborate with other internal Schools and Colleges and external institutions and bodies on the establishment of joint projects to enhance the quality of research, teaching and learning

Team Working

Work as a member of the School management team to contribute to the development and management of the School

Provide academic leadership within the School over a subject area, a range of courses or programmes and an area of research or significant academic endeavor.

Contribute significantly to the development and running of the School by taking on appropriate coordinating or leadership roles.

Supervise or line manage other staff as appropriate.

Act as mentor or appraiser to designated colleagues, advising on personal development and ensuring that they are meeting the standards required

Student Support

Act as academic tutor to students as allocated by the Head of School and act as first line contact for them for advice and support on academic matters, ensuring that students are directed to relevant support services when necessary.

Supporting students undertaking doctoral research in their subject and supervising them to timely completion.

Supervise student projects and placements as appropriate.

Leadership

Associate Professors are expected to lead by example in research and to support the research activities of individuals/research groups in the area in which they are appointed. Candidates will therefore have to evidence their leadership skills relevant to research, as well as their own personal high quality research record. This record should cover such aspects as their research outputs (including publications), research grants and research supervision. The post holder will be expected to maintain and develop their own research at a high level and to be a significant contributor to external research audits.

Citizenship

Contribute to the wider mission and reputation of the University with active involvement in activities contributing to general university life e.g. open days, student activities, alumni events, mentoring, personal tutoring and engagement with student support and delivery of outreach activities e.g. school visits, local community activities

Active participation in committees/groups contributing to university life e.g. health and safety, equality diversity and inclusivity, sustainability and working groups

Engage in appropriate training programmes in the University, actively follow and promote University policies and participation in the staff appraisal scheme and yearly Individual Research Plan (IRP)

Contribution to the future development of the University and support the University's wider social, cultural and economic development of our region, our 'civic' mission with engagement and/or leadership of external partnerships contributing to the civic mission of the University. Participation in external activities such as volunteering, school governor, cultural activities, community activities

In addition to the above, undertake such duties as may reasonably be requested and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Scope and dimensions of the role	
To be agreed between the post holder and the Head of School	
Key working relationships/networks	
Internal	External
• Pro Vice Chancellor & Head of College • Dean of Research • Head of School • Director of Dental Education • LIDOH Leadership team members • LIDOH project team members • LIRCH Director • LIRCH team members • Academics throughout the University • College Senior Academics • Research and other students • College / School academic, administrative and technical staff • Professional services staff • Other Colleges within the University	• External agencies • Funding bodies e.g. Research Councils • Professional & Regulatory Bodies, Educational establishments and organisations e.g. other universities • Professors, Associate Professors, Senior Research Fellows and other researchers elsewhere • Overseas partner institutions • Accrediting bodies



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UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN PERSON SPECIFICATION

JOB TITLE	Associate Professor in Rural and Coastal Dental and Oral Health	JOB NUMBER	CHS256
Selection Criteria		Essential (E) or Desirable (D)	Where Evidenced Application (A) Interview (I) Presentation (P) References (R)
Qualifications:			
PhD in relevant discipline or equivalent demonstrated research record (normally by publication but where appropriate through professional achievement)	E	A	
HE teaching qualification (HE PGCE or HEA fellowship) OR a commitment to complete one	E	A	
Experience:			
Proven substantial track record of internationally excellent outputs that would be returnable in the REF	E	A/I	
Experience of developing funded research projects in the specialist area	E	I	
Experience of working within multidisciplinary research	E	A/I	
Experience of teaching postgraduate students	D	I	
Senior Leadership experience	E	A/I	
Experience of leading on developing a research strategy plan and ensuring there is appropriate funding to make it sustainable	E	A/I	
Experience of supervising research students (to timely completion)	E	I	
Experience of efficient administration and management of research and/or teaching programmes	E	A/I	
Skills and Knowledge:			
Evidence of a substantial research profile in the subject area	E	A	
Evidence of successful engagement (projects/funding) with key external agencies	E	A	
Recent, internationally excellent research outputs	E	A	
Ability to demonstrate leadership skills in relation to research initiatives	E	I	
Ability to apply research to teaching and learning and assess across the range of taught levels offered	E	I/R	
Excellent verbal and written communication skills	E	I/R	
Team worker with good interpersonal skills, able to motivate others	E	A/I	
Able to build effective working relationships with a wide range of staff and external agencies	E	I/R	
Competencies and Personal Attributes:			
Flexibility and adaptability	E	I/R	

Initiative and independence in thinking/approach	E	A
Commitment to the subject area and the drive to improve	E	I

Essential Requirements are those, without which, a candidate would not be able to do the job. **Desirable Requirements** are those which would be useful for the post holder to possess and will be considered when more than one applicant meets the essential requirements.

Author	JR	HRBP	GPH
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