

## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Title of the post:** Principal Lecturer in Veterinary Physiotherapy, Full-time (1.0 FTE), Permanent

**Department:** Veterinary Health and Animal Sciences

**Reporting to:** Associate Head of Department

### **The University**

#### **Background**

Harper Adams University is the leading UK Higher Education (HE) institution focused on the land-based and food supply-chain sectors with an important national role in these subject areas.

Situated on a single campus in rural and scenic Shropshire, the University, and its surrounding area, provide an excellent working and living environment for staff and students alike, yet the University campus is only one hour from the UK's second city of Birmingham. Around 3,000 HE students attend the University, primarily on sandwich courses, which include a year-long industrial placement. Undergraduate and postgraduate degrees and apprenticeships are offered. The University also welcomes individuals who wish to undertake CPD or similar professional training to support their careers in the agri-food chain and rural industries.

The University was founded by Thomas Harper Adams in 1901 on the original farmland of the Harper Adams Estate. The University estate includes amenity areas, woodland, and a commercial farm of 205 hectares; with rented land, the total area farmed is approximately 640 hectares, spread over several locations with cereals, potatoes, forage maize and grassland carrying a dairy herd, sheep, beef, pig and poultry units.

The Privy Council awarded taught degree awarding powers to Harper Adams in 1996 and research degree awarding powers in 2006. Full University Title was granted by Her Majesty's Privy Council in December 2012. The University changed its legal status to that of a Company Limited by Guarantee in July 2012 and remains one of a small number of Universities which are Registered Charities. Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal became the University's first Chancellor in 2013.

#### **Academic Provision**

The University offers a wide range of courses including Foundation and Honours degrees, in addition to shorter awards designed to meet the continuing professional development needs of those already in the workplace. The subjects are wide ranging and cover Agriculture, Applied Life Sciences, Animal Science and Health, Business, Countryside, Engineering, Food and Land & Property Management. The University has also focused on developing its postgraduate education and research and there are a growing number of postgraduate students at both diploma, masters and PhD level.

Harper Adams has built up an international reputation for the quality of its courses and has achieved the highest possible ratings in recent Quality Assurance Agency reviews and holds a Gold Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) award. There is active encouragement of research and the University took part in the last Research Excellence Framework (REF) exercise. 56% of our submitted research was rated either internationally excellent or world leading and 100% was rated of international quality. Our extensive programme of research and education for professionals in the land-based and food chain sectors supports a high profile of business and community reach-out work, short course delivery for businesses and technology transfer activities supported by strong industry links and partnerships with companies including Saputo Dairy UK (formerly Dairy Crest), CLAAS and Ice Robotics.

Current high-profile projects include the Hands Free Farm – following on from the world-first Hands Free Hectare autonomous farming success; controlled traffic farming and development of laser weeding.

## **Recognition**

Harper Adams is consistently positioned highly in a range of national ratings, performance measures and league tables.

The University has been the highest performing modern university in The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide for the last five years.

In the QS World Rankings for Agriculture and Forestry published in March 2020, Harper Adams was ranked, for the third time, as first in the UK for academic reputation and second in the world for its reputation with employers.

In the 2020 Whatuni? Student Choice Awards, based on student reviews, Harper Adams won the best job prospects category for a fifth year running.

The University is one of the UK's Top 10 for student satisfaction, based on the results of the National Student Survey, and number 1 for graduate employment based on the 2020 Graduate Outcomes survey.

## **Facilities**

Harper Adams has extensive, well-equipped facilities and is constantly investing in its campus. Facilities include a range of modern teaching facilities and an extensive library, a variety of IT suites including an engineering design centre, newly extended laboratory facilities, a field laboratory and a livestock project centre, a glasshouse complex, an agricultural engineering unit with a large, covered soil working area and a number of sustainable technology installations. New facilities opened since 2017 include new laboratories, an Agri-Tech Innovation Hub and SMART Dairy Unit. A Veterinary Education Centre is due to open in 2021, in support of existing programmes and the new Harper & Keele Veterinary School. Capital funding to support the development of many of these facilities has been provided through the work of the Development Trust.

The University also provides a range of training and professional development opportunities via its staff development programme.

## **Catering and Sports Facilities**

The University's Students' Union operates a small gym and squash courts that staff may use on the payment of a nominal fee. The University has an open-air swimming pool, bowling green and tennis courts that are available for staff use during the summer period. A variety of University catering outlets provide access to lunch facilities on campus.

For further details about the University, please visit our website:

<http://www.harper-adams.ac.uk>

## **The Veterinary Health and Animal Sciences Team**

The Veterinary Health and Animal Sciences Department employs nearly 50 members of staff which includes veterinary physiotherapists, veterinary nurses, animal scientists, veterinary surgeons and technicians. This team works together to deliver both undergraduate and postgraduate courses focusing on veterinary physiotherapy, veterinary nursing, veterinary biosciences and animal health, welfare and behaviour. Research is also undertaken across this range of subject areas.

The veterinary physiotherapy team makes use of the Veterinary Service Centre; canine hydrotherapy suite comprising of a pool and treadmill; Companion Animal House Unit with associated equine facility; and has access to the newly-opened Veterinary Education Centre in collaboration with the undergraduate

programmes in veterinary nursing and medicine. Clinical equine physiotherapy teaching is delivered through an ambulatory approach based on strong links with local equine yards.

### **Main Duties and Responsibilities**

You will play a leading role in the delivery of veterinary physiotherapy teaching and research alongside the experienced academic team which has been established, in addition to acting as the Programme Manager.

The main duties of the role include:

1. Contribution to, and development of, teaching and curriculum content related to the University's undergraduate, postgraduate and short course programmes in veterinary physiotherapy.
2. Leadership and development of the research conducted at the university in veterinary physiotherapy, including the potential for interdisciplinary and collaborative research both within and outside of the university. Attracting external public research funding to the Department and developing a PhD programme in veterinary physiotherapy.
3. Conducting and supervising research in veterinary physiotherapy to a standard suitable for publication in peer-reviewed journals.
4. Admissions and applications review. Organising and participating in recruitment interview sessions.
5. Course management for the veterinary physiotherapy undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.
6. Participation in, and development of, the reach-out and research activity of the Department of Veterinary Health and Animal Sciences.
7. Liaising with external bodies (AHPR/NAVP) for course accreditation and recognition.
8. Undertake the duties of a member of academic staff including:
  - Participation in the organisation and supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate research projects from undergraduate up to PhD level.
  - Involvement in the supervision of students during their placement period.
  - Participation in the broader academic and corporate life of the University, which will require occasional weekend work.
9. All other duties and responsibilities commensurate with the post and the salary range of the grade as required by the line manager or Head of Department.

### **Personal Specification**

	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
Qualifications	An undergraduate degree or relevant postgraduate qualification in veterinary physiotherapy.	Postgraduate qualification at MSc or PhD level in the discipline or an appropriate related subject area.  Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

Experience	<p>Extensive experience as a practicing veterinary physiotherapist.</p> <p>Experience in participation in the delivery of teaching or professional training at Higher Education level.</p>	Experience in management.
Knowledge/Skills	<p>Extensive knowledge of veterinary physiotherapy as a discipline.</p> <p>High level practical skills in veterinary physiotherapy.</p> <p>Proven ability to write research publications in scientific journals in veterinary physiotherapy and/or related disciplines.</p>	Evidence of interprofessional networking and collaboration, especially in teaching and research.
Personal Qualities	<p>High level interpersonal and leadership skills.</p> <p>Ability to organise and deliver complex programmes of work in an academic environment.</p> <p>Ability to work both as part of a team and autonomously as the needs demand.</p>	

## Conditions of Service

**Salary** The commencing salary will be within the range £52,560 to £55,750 per annum depending on experience and stage of career. Salaries are paid monthly, in arrears, by credit transfer.

**Pension** The person appointed will be entitled to participate in the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) subject to its terms and conditions from time to time in force, unless election is made to make private pension arrangements or to participate in the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme (SERPS)

**Contract of Employment** The Contract of Employment will be that agreed between PCEF and the unions recognised at national level (the Polytechnics and Universities National Negotiating Committee Lecturers' Common Interest Group) on 5 December 1990, revised to comply with the Trade Union Reform and Employment Rights Act 1993 and the provisions of the National Framework Agreement for the modernisation of pay structures. The main features are:

- participation in staff appraisal schemes;
- exclusivity of contract;
- clauses relating to patents and inventions, copyright, confidential information, pensions, sickness and maternity benefits.

A full copy of the Contract of Employment and associated conditions will be available for inspection by candidates shortlisted for interview.

**Removal Expenses** The lowest of three tenders for removal expenses within the United Kingdom will be refunded. If the successful candidate terminates the engagement within six months of commencement the removal expenses must be repaid to the University.

**Probationary Period** The appointment is subject to satisfactory completion of a 12 month probationary period.

**Criminal Convictions** The post involves the opportunity for access to children and young persons under the age of 18. For this reason, the University is entitled to take into account any criminal convictions, cautions or impending case(s) that it considers to be relevant to this post.

The post is exempt from the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. This means that applicants are not entitled to withhold information about convictions which for other purposes are “spent” under the provisions of the Act.

Applicants must therefore complete the part of the application form declaring any criminal convictions and cautions from any court or police authority. The successful applicant will have to undergo a Criminal Records Bureau check before an appointment can be made.

#### **References:**

Candidates should ensure that they provide full details of the name and postal address of their referees. Please include e-mail addresses and telephone numbers wherever possible.

Referees should include your present, or most recent, employer.

#### **Application Procedure:**

All applications should be completed and submitted using the Harper Adams e-Recruitment programme at <http://jobs.harper-adams.ac.uk>

**To be completed no later than midnight on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021**