

Principal: Professor Jim McDonald

PROFESSOR IN SOCIAL INFORMATICS
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER & INFORMATION SCIENCES
John Anderson Research Leadership Scheme (JARL2)

1. NATURE OF APPOINTMENT

The vision of the University of Strathclyde is bold and transformational, placing it among the leading international technological universities. This promises an institution that is vibrant and dynamic and internationally focused, with cutting-edge, multi-disciplinary research of global relevance. The John Anderson Research Leadership scheme is focused on recruiting the best academic talent to enhance both research intensity and leadership in areas of strategic importance.

Social Informatics is the study of both the impact of new technology on human society and psychology, and the impact of human social and psychological requirements on how technology develops. This is a cross-disciplinary field bridging computer and information sciences, psychology, design, the arts and the social sciences. Social Informatics addresses some of the most important issues of today, including effective computer-mediated inter-personal communication, the use of social network sites to promote energy-saving behaviour and the dynamics of large-scale multi-cultural collaborations.

Computer and Information Sciences (CIS) is a lively cross-disciplinary department and Social Informatics is an important part of the department's strategic plan to increase and enrich its multi-disciplinary engagement. We now wish to recruit a Professor in this cross-disciplinary field, to complement and extend our current activities in CIS in information science and human-computer interaction.

You will have an international publication record in high quality journals and conferences and ideally you will also bring a track record of tangible development of innovative computer science approaches to solving problems motivated by the needs of society. You will have experience of obtaining research council, government and/or industrial or commercial funding and experience in leading a successful research team/s. Your track record will show evidence of academic contributions to cross-disciplinary fields, such as human-computer interaction, design for effective virtual communication, technological innovations in education and social pedagogy, or ubiquitous computing. You will also be engaged in international activity within a research community and have opportunities for international collaboration.

Subject to the Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations of the University, as Professor you will be responsible to Court of the University through the Principal for providing leadership in your academic area and will report annually on this. This is in addition to the responsibility which each Professor owes to his or her Head of Department.

2. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- A letter of application telling us why we should appoint you.
- A completed application form to which a full curriculum vitae should be attached. The names and addresses of three referees should be given on the application form. The referees may

be contacted by the University without further permission from the candidate unless you indicate to the contrary.

Applications should be lodged with Human Resources, University of Strathclyde, McCance Building, 16 Richmond Street, Glasgow, G1 1XQ by **14 December 2009**.

Applicants who wish an acknowledgement of their paper application should address and stamp the enclosed postcard. Online applications will be acknowledged electronically.

Formal shortlisting for the post will be held on 3 February 2010.

Presentation to staff in the Department of Computer and Information Sciences will take place on 10 March 2010. Informal meetings with the Principal, Dean of Science and Director of Human Resources will take place on the morning of 11 March 2010 followed by formal interviews that afternoon.

Informal enquiries regarding the post can be directed to Professor Maria Fox at maria.fox@cis.strath.ac.uk.

The University operates a normal retirement age of 65 or the September following 65th birthday. Applications will only be accepted from people up to the age of 64 years and 6 months at the date of their application unless otherwise stated. This is in line with the Employment Equality (Age) Regulations 2006.

3. DUTIES OF THE POST

Job Purpose

As Professor of Social Informatics, you will provide academic leadership to a growing research group in the area of Social Informatics. Contributions to both post-graduate and undergraduate teaching in computer science and information science will be required. You will be expected to attract and supervise PhD students.

Primary Responsibilities/Activities

The primary role is the development of research and knowledge exchange activities in the area of Social Informatics. This will involve raising research funds and producing research outputs as well as leadership and mentoring of junior researchers, supervision of PhD students and developments of external links with industry and other academic organisations. In addition, contributions to teaching and to departmental administration will be required.

4. PERSON SPECIFICATION

The following criteria are considered essential:

- PhD degree in a relevant area of Computer Science, Information Science or Engineering will normally be expected. In the absence of this, other evidence of high level activity in academic research, possibly in a non-HEI context, will be required;
- A degree or equivalent qualification in Computer Science, Information Science or related Engineering discipline;
- An outstanding and inspiring track record of achievement in research, recognised internationally, in an area relevant to Social Informatics which is consistent with the Department's strategic direction. This will include a strong international publication record, but might also be demonstrated by evidence of invention and innovation in the development of technology to solve socially-motivated problems;
- A track record of leadership in a research environment and the qualities of an academic leader, mentor, team player and good citizen;
- A proven ability to engage with external bodies, such as industry, business and international academia, to create collaboration and investment opportunities;

- Evidence of cross-disciplinary working and potential societal impact of research outputs;
- High level communication skills with the ability to listen, engage and persuade and to present complex information in an accessible way to a range of audiences;

The following criteria are considered desirable:

- Experience of undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and supervision of PhD theses;
- Experience of academic management;
- Evidence of previous successes in knowledge exchange.

5. THE DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCES

The Department of Computer and Information Sciences (CIS) is part of the Faculty of Science.

CIS is a thriving cross-disciplinary department bringing together computer scientists, mathematicians and information scientists. It has a number of research strengths in Artificial Intelligence, Mathematically Structured Programming, Software Engineering, Mobile Computing and Information Management. In RAE 2008 CIS achieved a Quality index of 45.3, putting it into a very competitive position and opening up many opportunities for development and growth. CIS has an academic staff of 26, a dedicated Systems Support team, Teaching Support staff plus a team of administrative and professional services staff. Our research staff comprises about 50 PhD students and externally funded research fellows. We have an intake of 80-100 undergraduate students, and 70-80 Masters students, per year. The Department benefits from dedicated computer laboratories supporting specialised teaching needs. The Department is a member of the Scottish Informatics and Computer Science Alliance (SICSA), a pooling of computer science and informatics expertise across the Scottish universities, funded by the Scottish Funding Council. It engages in a number of cross-institutional collaborations within SICSA and also enjoys a variety of international research collaborations with some of the top universities and research laboratories in the world in computer science and informatics.

6. THE UNIVERSITY OF STRATHCLYDE

The University of Strathclyde, in the heart of Glasgow, is a vibrant, international, academic community of 16,000 full-time students from 100 countries, and over 3,000 full-time equivalent staff. With a turnover of £220m, we are the third-largest University in Scotland. While still honouring the 200 year old founding vision of Professor John Anderson to be a “place of useful learning”, today’s Strathclyde is a modern, outward-looking, research-led University with a distinctive reputation for innovation and enterprise. Known for our high entry standards, the quality of our student learning experience, our impressive record on graduate employability and business spin outs, we have led the UK trend by continuing to increase our undergraduate numbers in Science and Engineering.

Within the past two years we have embarked on an ambitious change programme - the Agenda for Excellence - further enhancing the quality of our Research, Education and Knowledge Exchange. This commitment to excellence is supported by major investment in high calibre staff and an ambitious, sustainable estate development programme. Already this [strategic focus](#) is bearing fruit. Last year we achieved consistent improvement in overall institutional rankings in all major league tables of up to 10 places. According to Research Fortnight, Strathclyde is the only University in the UK top 20 grant earners showing increases in awards in 2006/2007 from all 6 research councils. The Financial Times ranked our Business School’s MBA 30th best in the world and first anywhere for value for money.

Presently the University is located on two campuses, the John Anderson (Glasgow City Centre) and Jordanhill (Glasgow West). We are also organised into six main budget areas; our five Faculties (Science, Engineering, Business, Law, Arts and Social Sciences, and Education) and Central Administrative Services, although these structures are also being reviewed as part of our Agenda for Excellence.

7. JOHN ANDERSON RESEARCH LEADERSHIP APPOINTMENTS

The John Anderson Research Leadership (JARL2) scheme builds on the success of the earlier John Anderson Research Lectureship initiative as Strathclyde continues to recruit the best academic talent to enhance both research capacity and leadership in areas of strategic importance.

Around 25 posts will be advertised under this scheme during 2009-10. Those appointed will join the University at a particularly exciting time as we continue with a series of strategic change initiatives designed to develop the University so that it can compete on equal terms with the very best in the UK and internationally as a technologically-focused HEI, with a particularly strong reputation in science, engineering and business.

It is expected that during the first three years in post appointees will be able to accelerate the establishment of their research activities. They will have a reduced teaching and administrative load during that period so that they can concentrate on developing their research portfolio, including securing research funding, building collaborations and building a team of research assistants and postgraduate research students as appropriate. Nonetheless, JARL2 appointments are not solely research appointments and appointees will be expected to undertake an appropriate full range of academic duties by the end of their third year in post. Each post will come with an attractive start-up package.

8. THE FACULTY OF SCIENCE

The Faculty comprises five academic (teaching and research) departments and three research units that together provide a balanced representation of exact, physical, molecular and biological sciences.

Academic Departments

- [Chemistry and Applied Chemistry](#) (including the [Centre for Forensic Science](#))
- [Computer & Information Sciences](#)
- [Mathematics & Statistics](#)
- [Pharmacy & Biomedical Sciences, Strathclyde Institute of \(SIPBS\)](#)
- [Physics](#)

Research Units

- [Biophotonics, Centre for](#)
- [Drug Research, Strathclyde Institute for](#)
- [Photonics, Institute of](#)

Flexible Courses

Degree courses can be based within one or more departments in the Faculty or run jointly with departments in other Faculties (for example, degrees with a Teaching Qualifications in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry or the Biological Sciences are delivered by Science and the Faculty of Education). The list of undergraduate and postgraduate courses is constantly being updated, so please check [Courses](#) for current information.

Degree structures are designed to offer students as much flexibility as possible in choosing their degrees. A particular example of flexibility is the Faculty's [Natural Sciences degree](#) which allows students who are initially unsure of their preferred route to sample a combination of subjects before committing to a specialised course. Its broad scientific base is also available to students who do not meet the competitive entry standards for the principal degrees - they can shadow the curriculum of other degrees and good performance may allow transfer to a degree of their choice.

Facilities are excellent, with well-equipped, modern laboratories and teaching rooms, plus 24-hour access to an advanced computer information network. Teaching and Education are supported by the University's sophisticated virtual e-learning environments which enrich the learning experience for students across the Faculty.

Knowledge Exchange

The Faculty is involved in all aspects of Knowledge Exchange. The Faculty's departments and research units wish to learn from industry so that degree courses remain vibrant and relevant. They also contribute to Scotland's industrial and commercial potential through collaborative research, both pure and applied.

Employability of Graduates

The University has an award-winning [Careers Service](#) which will help students make the most of their career potential. Many science degrees emphasise the application of science so that graduates can 'hit the ground running' when starting employment. But science and technology are not the only options - examples abound of students who have found work in government or the private sector because their degree has equipped them with highly marketable transferable skills that employers everywhere are eager to use. A high percentage of our graduates walk straight into a quality job on graduation.

9. THE CITY OF GLASGOW

[Glasgow](#) is the industrial and commercial capital of Scotland and the various groups that have contributed to its population over the centuries have given it a cosmopolitan feel. It has a lively cultural life as home of the national orchestra, opera and ballet and several theatre companies and it possesses a number of fine art galleries; it is the headquarters of the national press and broadcasting media. Its numerous higher and further education establishments have made it a major educational centre.

The Scottish countryside and its splendid recreation and sporting facilities are easily reached from Glasgow.

10. SALARY, CONDITIONS OF SERVICE AND BENEFITS

Appointment will be made in terms of the enclosed conditions of service (Appendix 1). The salary offered will be appropriate to the qualifications, standing and experience of the successful candidate and commensurate with the seniority of the appointment.

We also offer staff a range of other outstanding benefits, including:

- Membership of a [Final Salary Pension Scheme](#).
- Training and Development opportunities underpinned by a 10 year commitment to the [Investors in People](#) Standard.
- Reduced or remitted fees for vocational and non-vocational study.
- Sports, Recreation and [Wellbeing](#) facilities, including Ross Priory, a stunning 17th century house situated in 200 acres of land on the south shore of Loch Lomond, just 40 minutes drive from Glasgow.
- [Childcare](#) facilities and [voucher scheme](#).

11. POSITIVE ABOUT DISABLED PEOPLE

The University is accredited as a "Positive about Disabled People" employer and operates a guaranteed interview scheme for disabled candidates who meet all of the essential criteria for the post that they are applying for. On the appropriate section of the application form please indicate if you consider yourself to have a disability **and** wish to be considered under the scheme.

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 defines disability as “a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on a person’s ability to carry out normal day to day activities”.

Please note that if you indicate that you have a disability then you may be asked to provide information on this at interview. The University needs this information to consider the likely impact of your disability on the duties of the position you are applying for and what reasonable adjustments can be made to the position. This allows the University to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act (1995).

12. REMOVAL AND RESETTLEMENT

The University will cover the cost of reasonable removal expenses within the UK on the basis of the lower of at least two estimates. A further contribution towards costs involved in moving to Glasgow may be made at the discretion of the University.

It is the University’s custom to agree a fixed sum (indicated at the time of offer of contract) to cover removal and resettlement for new members of staff who reside outwith the UK.

13. CHILD PROTECTION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2003

It may be a requirement for this post that an Enhanced Disclosure Scotland Check is undertaken prior to commencement of employment. Please note that if a Disclosure check is required then any offer of employment will be subject to the outcome being satisfactory. Further information is available at <http://www.disclosurescotland.co.uk/>.

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

The University of Strathclyde is a Registered Scottish Charity, No SCO15263

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF PROFESSORS

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.

The University Court recognises the Strathclyde University 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 academic and related staff. Such terms and conditions may be varied by the University Court after negotiation and consultation with SUCU.

Further information on the terms and conditions specified in this document is contained in the Staff Handbook, which also includes further details of such conditions as provision for sick/injury leave and pay, leave of absence, holidays and holiday pay, individual grievance procedures, review and disciplinary procedures and collective agreements. Should you not receive a copy of the handbook on appointment a reference copy is accessible by visiting Human Resources.

2. CONTINUOUS SERVICE

In the case of new appointments, unless otherwise stated in the letter of appointment, the date of continuous employment for the purposes of statutory employment rights will be taken to be the date of appointment contained therein. In the case of promotions, regradings or transfers, previous service is continuous.

3. ALLOCATION OF POST

The post to which each member of staff is appointed is allocated to the department or other area named in the member of staff's letter of appointment and any accompanying papers. Should the University Court deem it necessary, in the furtherance of the objectives of the University specified in its Charter, it shall, having consulted with the parties concerned and having received the advice of the Senate, re-allocate the post and/or duties pertaining partially or wholly to it to another department or area. Any such re-allocation will be without prejudice to the other conditions of employment of the holder.

If the need arises during the course of employment for members of staff to work outside the U.K. 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.

4. RESPONSIBILITY AND SERVICE

Each professor is responsible to the Court of the University through the Principal for the fulfilment of the normal professorial duties. Unless otherwise indicated members of staff are appointed for full time service.

Heads of Departments are responsible to the Court of the University through the Principal for that department as a whole. The conditions of such appointment are as set out in Regulation 1.13, and a separate letter of appointment. Each professor is ex-officio a member of the Board of Study for the Faculty in which the professor's department or area is located.

5. WORKING TIME

Working time is that required to fulfil the duties of the post. The duties are: teaching, research, administrative and professional activities organised by agreement with the Head of Department to produce a reasonable balance of commitment between these duties. The University Court recognises that academics carry out these duties in a wide variety of ways, but expects student contact to take place on the campuses during normal working hours on week days. There are exceptions to this pattern which may involve student contact at other locations or in the evenings, or at the weekends, but these arrangements will be made with the agreement of the member of staff concerned and may involve additional payment.

6. HOLIDAYS

Annual leave entitlement is 31 week days per year to be taken by arrangement with the Head of Department. For calculation of entitlement, annual leave accrues on the basis of 2.5 days per calendar month to be taken within the leave year which begins on 1st October. In addition to annual leave there is an entitlement to eleven public holidays per year which should be taken on the 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.

7. CONSULTANCY/FURTHER ACTIVITIES

For professional development purposes the University Court encourages full time academic staff to undertake in addition to the teaching, research and other duties required of them as staff of the University further activities of their own choice in the field for which they are appointed. Such further activities may occupy no more than twenty-five normal working days in total per University financial year (i.e. during the period 1 August to 31 July inclusive). Such further activities require to be registered and authorised in terms of the University's regulations, the details of which are set out in the staff handbook.

8. SICK LEAVE

During any period of absence through illness or injury provided the appropriate medical certificates are received 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	Full Pay	Half Pay
During first year	1 month	1 month
During second year	2 months	2 months
During third year	4 months	4 months
During fourth and fifth year	5 months	5 months
After five years	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 Health and Social Security. For this and other details see staff handbook.

9. SALARY AND SUPERANNUATION

Appointments are made at an appropriate level above the nationally agreed minimum for professorial staff; salaries are reviewed annually. Salaries are payable monthly in arrears by means of credit transfer to a specified bank account.

New members of staff, under age 60, will be admitted to membership of the Universities' Superannuation Scheme on taking up appointment unless they notify the University in advance that they do not wish to be admitted to membership of USS, or have opted against USS in previous university employment. USS requires a contribution from the member of 6.35 per cent of salary, to which a contribution of salary is added by the University as required by USS. New members of staff over age 60 are not admitted automatically as special terms and a higher contribution rate (12 per cent) apply. Staff should contact the Pensions Section if they wish to join the scheme.

New members of staff may opt out of USS within three months of taking up appointment when they will be treated as if they had never been members. 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 in the first instance.

Full details of the Scheme are available for reference purposes at the Pensions Section of Finance Office, John Anderson Campus and from Human Resources, Jordanhill Campus.

10. PLACE OF RESIDENCE

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

11. NOTICE AND TERMINATION

The employment of a professor is terminable by at least six months' notice, in writing, by either party. If notice is being given by a professor, earlier release may be granted if this can be arranged without detriment to the work of the department.

If the appointment is for a fixed term it will expire at the end of the period without the necessity for notice unless it is renewed. Staff whose appointment has so terminated shall not normally be regarded as having been dismissed or removed from office in circumstances to which the terms of Statute XXIII Part III shall apply. Fixed term contracts may be terminated by either party short of the expiry date by the serving of six months notice in writing.

The University is not obliged to continue a fixed term appointment beyond the employment period.

Revised November 2006
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Our commitment to you as the applicant is:

- Your application will be acknowledged *unless stated otherwise in the advertisement* within five working days of receipt. To enable us to meet this, acknowledgement postcards, where enclosed with further particulars, should be completed and returned with your application. Unless otherwise stated in the advertisement, you will also be informed of the outcome of your application as soon as possible.
- If called for interview you will be advised promptly and clearly of the interview arrangements. Your interview will be conducted in a businesslike and friendly manner and will comply with recognised good employment practice. To assist us in meeting our standards we ask that you promptly confirm your attendance (or otherwise) at interview and advise us of any change in your address or Curriculum Vitae.
- You will also be advised of any major delays in the appointment procedure. We will only approach referees nominated by you.
- You will be informed of the outcome of interview as soon as possible. If you are being offered a post you will be written to within 2 working days of the decision being taken. The offer will normally include a duplicate copy which you are required to sign and return to conclude the contract. **Payment of an appropriate salary is dependent on this.**
- We are committed to achieving the standards we have set and to receiving and acting upon constructive feedback from our clients.
- If you are not satisfied with the service you have received, please raise the matter in the first instance with the person with whom you have been dealing. This person will either deal with the complaint to your satisfaction or else advise you how to proceed next. If you feel that dealing with the matter in this way is inappropriate, then write to me at Human Resources, University of Strathclyde, McCance Building, 16 Richmond Street, Glasgow G1 1XQ, and I will respond.

Sandra Heidinger
Acting Director of Human Resources