

Research Role Profile

<b>Job Title:</b>	Research Fellow A
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<b>Responsible to:</b>	Prof Erich Round
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<b>Responsible for:</b>	Not applicable
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<b>Job Summary and Purpose:</b>
To undertake research in accordance with the specified research project(s) under the supervision of the principal investigator.

<b>Main Responsibilities/Activities</b>
<p>To undertake a range of research activities within a specified research area, assuming responsibility for specific areas of projects and making use of new research techniques and methods, in consultation with the research award holder or supervisor. This may include fieldwork, interviews, laboratory experimentation, critical evaluation and interpretation, computer-based data analysis and evaluation or library research.</p> <p>Using initiative and creativity to identify areas for research develop new research methods and extend the research portfolio. Analysing and interpreting results of own research. Write up results and prepare papers for submission to appropriate journals and conferences, and other outputs as required and/or appropriate. Attend appropriate conferences for the purpose of disseminating research results of personal development. The post holder may also contribute to writing bids for research grants and will contribute to collaborative decision making with colleagues in areas of research.</p> <p>Continually to update knowledge and develop skills, and translate knowledge of advances in the area into research activity.</p> <p>To plan and manage own research activity in collaboration with others. To carry out administrative tasks associated with specified research funding, for example risk assessment of research activities, organisation of project meetings and documentation. Implementation of procedures required to ensure accurate and timely formal reporting and financial control.</p> <p>To contribute to teaching in the Faculty by carrying out student supervision and/or demonstrating within the post holder's area of expertise and under the direct guidance of a member of departmental academic staff, as appropriate.</p> <p>The post holder may occasionally be required to supervise more junior research staff.</p>

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### Person Specification

#### The post holder must have:

A doctoral degree in a relevant discipline (although individuals who have almost completed a doctoral degree may be appointed). Consideration may also be given to individuals who do not hold a doctoral degree but have required skills based on a number of years' experience in specified / relevant fields

The post holder will have authority over some aspects of project work and must be capable of providing academic judgement, offering original and creative thoughts and be able to interpret and analyse results.

### Relationships and Contacts

Direct responsibility to the principal investigator or academic supervisor. The post holder may be asked to serve on a relevant Faculty committee. There may be additional reporting and liaison responsibilities to external funding bodies or sponsors. The post holder may work on original research tasks with colleagues in other institutions.

#### All staff are expected to:

- Positively support equality of opportunity and equity of treatment to colleagues and students in accordance with the University of Surrey Equal Opportunities policy.
- Help maintain a safe working environment by:
  - Attending training in Health and Safety requirements as necessary, both on appointment and as changes in duties and techniques demand
  - Following local codes of safe working practices and the University of Surrey Health and Safety Policy
- Undertake such other duties within the scope of the post as may be requested by your Manager.

### Special Requirements

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**Addendum**

This document provides additional information relating to both specific aspects of the post/faculty and any post specific person specification criteria. The information contained within this document should always be read in conjunction with the accompanying generic Role Profile.

**Job Title:**

Research Fellow A in Computational Phonology

**Background Information/Relationships**

We are seeking qualified applicants for a fully-funded two-year postdoctoral project on “REVOLUPHON: Rational Evolutionary Phonology”. This postdoctoral project contributes to the core modelling components in the ERC-selected, UKRI-funded project "Rational Evolutionary Phonology", led by Erich Round in 2024–2029. The position is based at the Surrey Morphology Group at the University of Surrey, and provides the opportunity to work in the vibrant and highly collegial research environment for which SMG is renowned.

**Person Specification**

This section describes the sum total of knowledge, experience & competence required by the post holder that is necessary for standard acceptable performance in carrying out this role. This is in addition to the criteria contained within the accompanying generic Role Profile.

	<b>Essential/ Desirable</b>
A PhD in linguistics, with a focus on formal computational phonology.	<b>Essential</b>
Track record of both independent and team-based research.	<b>Essential</b>
Track record of creating scientific software (scripts or packages).	<b>Essential</b>
Track record of innovative research within formal/computational phonological learning.	<b>Essential</b>
Track record of innovative research which engages with optimisation/limitations on computational resources, i.e., data sparsity; algorithmic time and space efficiency; interplay of computation and data structures/representation.	<b>Essential</b>
Excellent written and spoken English.	<b>Essential</b>
Up-to-date familiarity with research in subregular phonology, and a willingness to extend its concepts to new areas.	<b>Essential</b>
Track record of published peer-reviewed research.	<b>Desirable</b>
Track record of cross-disciplinary research.	<b>Desirable</b>
Familiarity with concepts and methods in computational morphology.	<b>Desirable</b>

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Familiarity with foundational concepts and methods in Bayesian statistics.	<b>Desirable</b>
Familiarity with concepts and methods in computational cognitive science.	<b>Desirable</b>
Formal training in mathematical and/or computational sciences.	<b>Desirable</b>
In-depth familiarity with one or more rich morphological systems (e.g., via descriptive research; as a speaker).	<b>Desirable</b>
<b>Key Responsibilities</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Contribute to the formal operationalisation of project objectives in the computational modelling of phonological/morphological cognition and acquisition.</li> <li>2. Design, implement and evaluate deterministic and probabilistic computational models to meet project objectives and answer research questions.</li> <li>3. Design and develop linguistically sophisticated natural and synthetic datasets.</li> <li>4. Analyse and scientifically interpret research results; present outcomes at scientific conferences; and prepare co-authored research publications.</li> <li>5. Collaborate with other team members in an ambitious and multidisciplinary project, and participate in the vibrant, collegial activities of SMG.</li> <li>6. Your research will be at times independent and in close collaboration with other project researchers.</li> </ol> <p><b>N.B. The above list is not exhaustive.</b></p>	