

Research Role Profile

Job Title:	Research Fellow A - The Emergence of Globular Clusters
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Responsible to:	Head of research group, or principal investigator
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Responsible for:	Not applicable
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Job Summary and Purpose:
To undertake research in accordance with the specified research project(s) under the supervision of the principal investigator.

Main Responsibilities/Activities
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. 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. Continually to update knowledge and develop skills, and translate knowledge of advances in the area into research activity. 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. 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. The post holder may occasionally be required to supervise more junior research staff.

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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.

Special Requirements

To be available to participate in fieldwork as required by the specified research project

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.

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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 Job Purpose.

Job Title:

Research Fellow - The Emergence of Globular Clusters

Background Information/Relationships

Applications are invited for a one year Postdoctoral Research Associate to work with Prof. Justin Read in the Astrophysics group within the School of Mathematics and Physics at the University of Surrey. The position is fully funded by the STFC Astronomy Small Award "The Emergence of Globular Clusters" for the period October 2026 to September 2027.

Applicants with a strong background in numerical simulations of astrophysical systems and/or galactic dynamics and mass modelling are encouraged to apply. Prior experience working with large datasets, mass modelling techniques and/or high resolution simulations of dwarf galaxies would be advantageous.

The researcher will have access to Surrey's High Performance Computing cluster Eureka2 as well as career mentoring and training opportunities. Travel and equipment funds are available as part of the grant. They will join the Astrophysics group, a vibrant, diverse and dynamic environment with 10 faculty and over 10 graduate students and early-career researchers. Areas of interest in the group include galactic dynamics and archeology, supermassive black holes and gravitational wave sources, cosmology and stellar evolution.

The University of Surrey is committed to promoting equity, diversity and inclusion and we particularly welcome applicants from underrepresented groups. The Department of Physics is proud to hold both an Institute of Physics Juno Champion Award and an Athena Swan Silver Award.

Informal enquiries are very welcome and should be addressed to Prof. Justin Read.

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 Job Purpose.

Qualifications and Professional Memberships

**Essential/
Desirable**

Applicants will possess a relevant PhD or equivalent qualification/experience in a related field of social science.

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Technical Competencies (Experience and Knowledge)	Essential/ Desirable
The successful applicant will have excellent research and communication skills (both written and verbal)	E
The successful applicant will possess sufficient specialist knowledge to develop research programmes and methodologies.	E
Supervise the work of others and act as team leader as required	D
Applicants will be able to collect and analyse qualitative and quantitative data and write up findings in diverse formats for different target audiences.	E
The successful applicant will have excellent research and communication skills (both written and verbal)	E
Key Responsibilities This document is not designed to be a list of all tasks undertaken but an outline record of any faculty/post specific responsibilities. This should be read in conjunction with those contained within the accompanying generic Job Purpose.	
1. To undertake a range of tasks related to the grant: "The emergence of globular clusters, dwarf galaxies and something in-between". (https://gtr.ukri.org/projects?ref=ST%2FY002865%2F1) 2. To research, write and publish research papers. 3. To present research results and conferences and workshops. 4. To participate in the academic life of the Surrey Astrophysics research group.	
N.B. The above list is not exhaustive.	