

- Title:** Research Associate in Spin-based Quantum Sensing
- Reference:** 1711584
- Grade:** UCL Grade 7. Appointment at Grade 7 is dependent upon having been awarded a PhD; if this is not the case, initial appointment will be at research assistant Grade 6B (£30,316 to £31,967 including London Allowance) with payment at Grade 7 being backdated to the date of final submission of the PhD thesis.
- Salary:** £34,635-£41,864 per annum including London Allowance.
- Terms and Conditions:** In accordance with the conditions of employment as laid down in the relevant UCL Staff policies
- Accountable to:** Prof John Morton

Job Summary:

The Quantum Spin Dynamics group at UCL, led by Prof John Morton, is inviting applications for a post-doctoral research associate in spin-based quantum sensing, as part of a new ERC Consolidator Grant entitled LOQO-MOTIONS. The post is funded for 3 years in the first instance.

The aim of the post will be to work on combining silicon nano-devices showing single-spin sensitivity with an atomic-force microscope, to demonstrate how the record spin coherence lifetimes in silicon could be used for magnetic field sensing at the nano-scale. Coupling between spins in silicon and other spin-active defects in diamond and SiC materials will also be explored.

The project will make use of a new laboratory with an Attocube instrument possessing an atomic force microscope / confocal microscope (AFM/CFM), combined with a 1/1/1T vector magnet and closed cycle cryostat, as well as superconducting single photon detectors. There will be several opportunities to participate in international collaborations.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Use electron spin resonance techniques, combined with optical spectroscopy and characterise and coherently control spins in a range of materials, down to the single spin level
- Perform measurements of spins in silicon nano-devices within a cryostat fitted with closed-loop nanopositioners and scanning probe functionalities at temperatures down to 2 Kelvin and below
- Use cleanroom fabrication techniques where necessary to deposit materials and pattern nanostructures relevant to the project
- Specify, procure, commission and maintain instruments, fabrication tools, cryostats and magnets
- Prepare progress reports on research for funding bodies as required.
- Prepare manuscripts for submission to peer-reviewed journals

- Prepare invention disclosures
- Prepare presentations, including text and images, for delivery by self as well as others
- Travel to meetings both domestically and abroad to discuss results and to learn about related developments elsewhere
- Travel to facilities, both domestic and abroad, to perform experiments characterizing devices and/or enhancing/testing fabrication processes
- Contribute to the preparation and drafting of research bids and proposals.
- Contribute to the overall activities of the research team and department as required.
- Contribute to the smooth running of the optical laboratory, including cryostats, lasers, detectors and spectrometer
- Contribute to the induction and direction of other research staff and students as requested.
- Carry out any other duties as are within the scope, spirit and purpose of the job as requested by Prof Morton.
- Actively follow UCL policies including Equal Opportunities and Race Equality policies.
- Maintain an awareness and observation of Fire and Health and Safety Regulations.

Person Specification

Essential Qualifications

- A PhD in Engineering, Physics or a related discipline is required. For completing PhD students, it may be sufficient to have submitted the PhD thesis by the time of taking up the appointment, subject to the approval of the appointment panel.

Essential Experience

- Expertise in optical spectroscopy of single spins OR scanning probe microscopy
- Good oral, written and presentation skills.
- Excellent IT skills, including computational software for analysing experimental data such as Matlab or Python, as well as word-processing and presentation software.
- Experience of managing a research project and setting research targets; evidence of creativity in research and an understanding of the requirements of research and the publication of scientific papers.

Desirable Experience

- Expertise in optical spectroscopy of single spins combined with scanning probe microscopy
- Experience in performing experiments at temperatures below 10 Kelvin, including microwave control, optical spectroscopy, and/or scanning probe microscopy
- Experience in silicon-based photonic crystal cavities
- Experience in coherent control of spins or spin qubits
- Experience in nanofabrication of optical devices
- An understanding of the principles of decoherence of spins,
- An understanding of spins in silicon and spins in silicon nanodevices
- A strong track record in publishing high impact research

Essential skills and abilities

- Well-organised, attention to detail and ability to meet deadlines.
- Ability to think logically, create solutions and make informed decisions.
- Fluency and clarity in spoken English.
- Good written English.
- Ability to work collaboratively as part of team.
- Commitment to high quality research.
- Ability to deliver adequate training and support to other lab users

London Centre for Nanotechnology

The London Centre for Nanotechnology is an interdisciplinary joint enterprise between University College London and Imperial College London. In bringing together world-class infrastructure and leading nanotechnology research activities, the Centre aims to attain the critical mass to compete with the best facilities abroad. Research programmes are aligned to three key areas, namely Planet Care, Healthcare and Information Technology and exploit core competencies in biomedical, physical and engineering sciences.

The Centre occupies a purpose-built eight storey facility in Gordon Street, Bloomsbury, as well as extensive facilities within different departments at South Kensington. LCN researchers have access to state-of-the-art clean-room, characterisation, fabrication, manipulation and design laboratories. This experimental research is complemented by leading edge modelling, visualisation and theory.

LCN has strong relationships with the broader nanotechnology and commercial communities, and is involved in much major collaboration. As the world's only such facility to be located in the heart of a metropolis, LCN has superb access to corporate, investment and industrial partners. LCN is at the forefront of training in nanotechnology, and has a strong media presence aimed at educating the public and bringing transparency to this emerging science.

About UCL

UCL is one of the world's top universities. Based in the heart of London, it is a modern, outward-looking institution. At its establishment in 1826, UCL was radical and responsive to the needs of society, and this ethos – that excellence should go hand-in-hand with enriching society – continues today.

UCL's excellence extends across all academic disciplines; from one of Europe's largest and most productive hubs for biomedical science interacting with several leading London hospitals, to world-renowned centres for architecture (UCL Bartlett) and fine art (UCL Slade School).

UCL is in practice a university in its own right, although constitutionally a college within the federal University of London. With an annual turnover exceeding £1 billion, it is financially and managerially independent of the University of London.

The UCL community

UCL's staff and former students have included 29 Nobel prizewinners. It is a truly international community: more than one-third of our student body – more than 35,000 strong – come from 150 countries and nearly one-third of staff are from outside the UK.

UCL offers postgraduate research opportunities in all of its subjects, and provides more than 200 undergraduate programmes and more than 400 taught postgraduate programmes.

Approximately 54% of the student community is engaged in graduate studies, with about 29% of these graduate students pursuing research degrees.

Quality of UCL's teaching and research

UCL is independently ranked as the most productive research university in Europe (SIR).

It has 983 professors – the highest number of any university in the UK – and the best academic to student ratio of any UK university (*The Times*, 2014), enabling small class sizes and outstanding individual support.

In Research Excellence Framework 2014 (REF2014), UCL was rated the top university in the UK for 'research power' (the overall quality of its submission multiplied by the number of FTE researchers submitted). It was rated top not only in the overall results, but in each of the assessed components: publications and other research outputs; research environment; and research impact. REF2014 confirmed UCL's multidisciplinary research strength, with many leading performances across subject areas ranging from biomedicine, science and engineering and the built environment to laws, social sciences and arts and humanities.

Equality

UCL is proud of its longstanding commitment to equality and to providing a learning, working and social environment in which the rights and dignity of its diverse members are respected.

Some highlights below:

- **Race Charter Mark** - UCL holds a Bronze Race Equality Charter Mark award, recognising UCL's commitment to improving the representation, progression and success of minority ethnic staff and students.
- **Athena SWAN** - UCL holds an institutional Silver **Athena SWAN** award – this recognises our commitment to and impact in addressing gender equality. Departments at UCL are also engaged in the Athena SWAN charter, with 29 departments holding an award; 16 Silver and 13 Bronze.
- **Staff networks** - We have a number of staff networks that run a range of social and development activities, for example **Out@UCL**, **PACT**, **Enable@UCL**, **the race equality staff network**, **Astrea** and **UCL Women**.
- **B-MEntor** – **B-MEntor** is a mentoring scheme for black and minority ethnic staff. The mentoring scheme is a collaborative initiative with a number of London-based universities.
- **Sabbatical Leave following maternity** – UCL provides one term of sabbatical leave without teaching commitments for research-active academics returning from maternity, additional paternity, adoption or long-term carer's leave. This support for returners enables staff to more quickly re-establish their research activity.

Please see our **Equalities and Diversity Strategy 2015-2020** for information on our current priorities.

Location and working environment

Based in Bloomsbury, UCL is a welcoming, inclusive university situated at the heart of one of the world's greatest cities.

UCL's central campus is within easy reach of Euston, Kings Cross and Marylebone mainline stations, the new Eurostar terminal at St. Pancras and the following Underground stations - Euston Square, Warren Street, Goodge Street and Russell Square. Road connections to the M1 and M40 motorways give easy access to the north and west road networks. There are also good public transport links to Heathrow airport.

Application procedure

Further details about the post and the application procedure are available at www.london-nano.com. If you are unable to apply online please contact Denise Ottley at the London Centre for Nanotechnology, d.ottley@ucl.ac.uk or 17-19 Gordon Street, London WC1H 0AH, for advice.