

**UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN**  
**INSTITUTE OF BIOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**  
**ESTABLISHED CHAIR OF SOIL SCIENCE**

The Institute of Biological and Environmental Sciences is seeking an internationally renowned research leader for appointment to the Established Chair of Soil Science, to enhance its capacity as a world-leading research centre. This position builds on existing strengths recognised in UK Research Assessment Exercise 2008, in which the Institute's research was ranked 2/34 in the UK. The successful candidate will join one of the top Soils groups in the world and must demonstrate evidence of a leading international research profile, including exceptional skills in research, a strong record of publication in high impact journals and a proven track record of securing external funding for innovative research. The role holder will be expected to contribute to a world-class research group in Aberdeen that complements and integrates with existing research strengths in the Institute in the area of biological interactions in soils. These strengths include the role of soils as providers of functional services in ecosystems and agriculture or as drivers of microbial diversity, environmental change and wider ecosystem/human health. The role holder will also be expected to provide leadership for the discipline of Soil Science both nationally and internationally and will have the opportunity to play a key role in the development of new directions and initiatives within the Institute.

To discuss the post informally or to arrange a visit, please contact Professor Chris Secombes, Head of School (tel: 01224 272857, email [c.j.secomb@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:c.j.secomb@abdn.ac.uk)) or Professor Jim Prosser (Tel: 01224 273254 or 272681, email [j.prosser@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:j.prosser@abdn.ac.uk)).

Should you require a visa to undertake paid employment in the UK you will be required to fulfil the minimum points criteria to be granted a Certificate of Sponsorship and Tier 2 visa. As appropriate, at the time an offer of appointment is made you will be asked to demonstrate that you fulfil the criteria in respect of financial maintenance and competency in English. Please do not hesitate to contact Diane Norris, HR Adviser, for further information on this.

To apply online for this position visit [www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs) or alternatively you may request an application pack by emailing your name and contact details to [jobs@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:jobs@abdn.ac.uk) or by telephoning our 24 hour answer service on (01224) 272727 quoting the job reference number **YPL061A**.

The closing date for the receipt of applications is **Friday 8 January 2010**.

*Promoting Diversity and Equal Opportunities throughout the University*