THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Post Specification

Research Assistant Professor in Applied Linguistics / English Language Studies / Language Studies in Professional Contexts / Sociolinguistics / Systemic Functional Linguistics (several posts) (Ref. 12061508)

The Department of English within the Faculty of Humanities at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University is a very forward-looking and community-oriented department with an extensive international network of collaboration and exchange. It has a long history in producing high-quality preferred graduates from its undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. A central mission of the Department is to provide Applied Language Studies to meet community needs. With a team of around 20 academic staff members, the Department is also actively engaged in applied and appliable research in the five key areas of Applied Linguistics, English Language Studies, Language Studies in Professional Contexts, Sociolinguistics and Systemic Functional Linguistics. Information can be obtained through the departmental homepage at http://www.engl.polyu.edu.hk/, including information about the key areas of research.

The Department is now inviting applications for the post of Research Assistant Professor for which research and teaching expertise in one or more of the five key areas specified above is required. The ability to enhance departmental research activity and output is essential.

Duties

The appointee will be required to:

(a) teach subjects in English Language Studies on both the undergraduate programmes (full-time and part-time) and taught postgraduate programmes (full-time and part-time);

(b) contribute to the curriculum design and materials development of the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes offered by the department;

(c) supervise undergraduate and postgraduate student projects, including PhD supervision;

(d) actively conduct research in the Department’s research areas and contribute to the development of its research strengths; and

(e) assist in the administration of the Department.

Successful candidates are expected to undertake academic research in their areas of expertise, including but not limited to application for external research grants and participation in research projects.

Qualifications

Applicants should have:

(a) a PhD degree in English language studies, applied linguistics (including language testing and assessment), or systemic functional / corpus-based linguistics;

(b) a recognised teaching qualification;
(c) preferably post-qualification teaching experience at tertiary level, including teaching subjects relevant to English Language Studies, with a demonstrated record of excellence in teaching;

(d) relevant research experience (as supported by evidence of research projects and outputs). Experience of postdoctoral research positions will be a plus but not required;

(e) an excellent track record of research and publication, including experience with project-based research; and

(f) native / near-native competence in English, and excellent English communication skills.

Preference will be given to those with research orientations who can contribute to the Department’s development of its key areas of research strength. In addition, certain abilities and areas of expertise will be considered added strengths, such as the ability to speak Spanish, French and / or German or experience in teaching one or more of these languages, background in Natural Language Processing (e.g. in support of corpus development and analysis), and the ability to teach aspects of literature in English in the framework of English language arts (in addition to core expertise in English language studies).

Remuneration and Conditions of Service

The remuneration package for the Research Assistant Professor post is the same as an Assistant Professor post. A highly competitive remuneration package will be offered. Appointments for Research Assistant Professor will be on a fixed-term gratuity-bearing contract for up to three years. Re-engagement thereafter is subject to mutual agreement. Applicants should state their current and expected salary in the application.

15 June 2012