



MAGDALEN COLLEGE, OXFORD

Two Calleva Centre two-year Postdoctoral Research Associates on the project Climate change: Effects and solutions

Post 1: Postdoctoral Research Associate in Net Zero Policy Evaluation

Post 2: Postdoctoral Research Associate on Global Threats due to Climate Change

Magdalen College proposes to appoint two Postdoctoral Research Associates in its Calleva Research Centre to work on the project *Climate change as a dangerous threat to human welfare*. The project will use statistical analysis to model outcomes, produce forecasts and propose policy interventions to achieve the stated goal of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. The posts will commence on 1 October 2023 or as soon as possible thereafter and will be for two calendar years in the first instance, with the possibility of extension for another year subject to future funding.

The Calleva Centre at Magdalen College

Magdalen College, one of thirty-eight colleges within the University of Oxford, carries out research and teaching in the full range of science, social science and humanities subjects. It has Fellows working on Economics and Climate Science. For further information on the College see www.magd.ox.ac.uk.

The College's Calleva Research Centre for Evolution and Human Science was inaugurated in October 2010. Its aims are to investigate key questions about the origins, development, causes and functions of human behaviour by bridging the humanities, social, cognitive, and biological sciences within a broad evolutionary framework. The Centre's work is embodied through successive fixed-term interdisciplinary research programmes that draw on unique collaborations between Magdalen Fellows working in these diverse fields.

Details of the research programme

This project falls under the Calleva Centre's interest in Threats to Humanity. The project aims to develop more robust climate models using cutting-edge econometric methods focusing on policy analysis. It will achieve this by linking empirical feedbacks between greenhouse gas emissions and socio-economic processes, showing the commonalities and differences between the physical and statistical approaches. The project will conduct new research showing how

net zero can be achieved in a fair and equitable way, proposing policies to focus on stranded workers and their families, addressing issues of unemployment as well as stranded assets. At the same time, it will conduct direct evidence based analysis of the progress Magdalen College is making towards its own stated goal for decarbonisation, linking global policy and research to local sustainability initiatives.

The project is led by [Dr Jennifer Castle](#), in collaboration with [Professor Timothy Barraclough](#) and researchers at [Climate Econometrics, Nuffield College](#) and the [Smith School for Enterprise and the Environment](#).

The posts

Post 1: Postdoctoral Research Associate in Net Zero Policy Evaluation.

We are seeking a qualified and highly motivated individual who will work on designing, implementing and evaluating a policy framework for achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions. Magdalen College's own net zero strategy can be used as the test bed. The post holder will design policies to help meet the net zero target and establish methods to assess and evaluate against the stated goals.

Post 2: Postdoctoral Research Associate on Global Threats due to Climate Change.

We are seeking a qualified and highly motivated individual who will work on global threats due to climate change. The post holder will develop and/or apply empirical methods to augment climate-economic research, building a research agenda which could encompass modelling greenhouse gas impacts on climate and modelling dangerous tipping points from melting tundra, massive sea-level rise from ice-sheet collapse, and very extreme weather events. The post holder could also evaluate what has worked by assessing the empirical evidence on taxes, subsidies, legislation, behavioural change, technology research, etc.

Posts 1 and 2

The post holders will join a stimulating, interdisciplinary research environment. There will be opportunities for the post holders to receive training in econometrics and other related disciplines. The Postdoctoral Research Associates will be responsible for research activities such as conducting data analyses, designing and running experiments, and writing manuscripts. They will help with supervision of other team members such as DPhil and project students where appropriate. Both post holders will also help to organise an initial and final workshop bringing together an interdisciplinary group of researchers to define and assess progress on the project.

Responsibilities and duties

- Undertake original research that contributes to the research agenda of the Calleva project.
- Manage own academic research and administrative activities related to the project, including small-scale project management, to co-ordinate multiple aspects of work to meet deadlines.
- Design and evaluate policies intended to change behaviour in order to move towards Magdalen College's stated goal of net zero greenhouse gas emissions.
- Work collaboratively with colleagues from other disciplines, including help organising a multidisciplinary workshop.
- Work with other team members such as DPhil and project students.
- Contribute ideas for new research projects and develop ideas for taking research forward to the next stage.

Communication

- Contributing to the preparation of scientific manuscripts based on research for publication in peer-reviewed journals.
- Participating in and contributing to group activities in Climate Econometrics (discussions, training of junior researchers).
- Produce and present posters and oral presentations to the local and broad scientific community and non-academic audiences, and be involved in outreach activities related to the projects.
- Represent the research group at external meetings/seminars, either with other members of the group or alone.

Education and training

- Opportunities for training in econometrics and climate economics.
- Attending appropriate scientific seminars and meetings.

Other General Responsibilities

- Undertaking such other duties as may be required from time to time that are commensurate with the grade and responsibilities of this post, such as project group administration.
- Conducting themselves with due regard to the University Equal Opportunities and Data Protection policies.

Selection criteria

Required

- Hold or be close to completing a relevant PhD/DPhil.

- An established interest in and experience of one or more aspects of the project (econometrics, climate science, policy design and evaluation), evidenced by research and professional activities to date.
- Evidence of ability to write for publication for academic audiences.
- Experience of independently managing a discrete research project; good attention to detail and excellent organisation skills are essential.
- Within the research group the post holder should work in a collaborative and supportive fashion. Good inter-personal skills with an ability to work co-operatively in a multidisciplinary setting.
- Ability to contribute ideas for new research projects and to take the research forward.
- Excellent communication skills, including the ability to present research proposals and results, and represent the research group at meetings.

The location of the job will be in Oxford.

Salary and benefits

The appointments will be made on grade 7 of University Salary Scale, currently £34,308 - £46,047 p.a..

The posts carry an entitlement to join, or to remain a member of, the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS).

The College provides for maternity leave on a basis that exceeds the statutory provisions. This is a day one entitlement and there is no qualifying period, women are eligible for 26 weeks' maternity leave on full pay, followed by 13 weeks of leave on Statutory Maternity Pay (SMP) and 13 weeks of unpaid maternity leave. Arrangements for Adoption Leave, Shared Parental Leave, and Paternity Leave. Magdalen College has a priority claim in the University nurseries.

The College particularly welcomes applications from Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic Candidates.

Application procedure

Applications must include the completed application form (available from www.magd.ox.ac.uk/job-vacancies/). Candidates should also submit a detailed covering letter (two pages maximum) outlining their suitability for the post and one research paper (which could be published, a working paper, or work in progress). Please specify which of the two posts (Postdoctoral Research Associate in Net Zero Policy Evaluation or Postdoctoral Research Associate on Global Threats due to Climate Change) you are applying to. If you wish to apply to both posts only one application is needed and please specify this in your cover letter. The covering letter, completed application form and research paper should be emailed to human.resources@magd.ox.ac.uk by 12 noon (UK time) on Tuesday 11th April 2023.

Candidates should request two referees to send references directly to the same email address by the same date. The College will NOT contact referees and it is each candidate's responsibility to ensure that the College receives all his/her references by the closing date.

We expect to notify short-listed candidates within one week from the closing date.

Following the initial offer of the position, appointment will be subject to (a) satisfactory completion of a medical questionnaire, and (b) provision of proof of the right to work in the UK.

If the chosen candidate requires a UK visa, HR and the University Staff Immigration Team will discuss visa routes and will provide advice and assistance with an application.

If a person appointed to the post is a migrant sponsored under the UK's new points-based migration system, we are required to retain the applications for all shortlisted candidates until six months after we have ceased sponsoring the migrant in question.

Recruitment Monitoring

A Magdalen College Recruitment Monitoring Form will be found at the following page on the Magdalen College web site: <http://www.magd.ox.ac.uk/job-vacancies/>. Applicants are requested to complete the form and return it to Human Resources, Magdalen College, Oxford OX1 4AU (or by email to human.resources@magd.ox.ac.uk). Please note that the form is anonymous and is used only to monitor and ensure equality of opportunity for all candidates: it is not part of the selection process and will not be seen by any member of the selection committee.

Data protection

All data supplied by applicants will be used only for the purposes of determining their suitability for the post¹ and will be held in accordance with the principles of the Data Protection Act 2018 and the College's Data Protection Policy which can be found at <http://www.magd.ox.ac.uk/other-policies/data-protection/>.