

Post-Doctoral Research Associate

Job Description

The Role

Job title:	Post-Doctoral Research Associate (PDRA) in Agricultural Innovation
Department:	Agricultural Science & Practice
Responsible to:	Senior Lecturer Dr Lisa Morgans
Location:	Royal Agricultural University campus, Cirencester
Salary:	£28,759-£33,965 pro rata for 0.3FTE; 10.5 hours per week
Term:	To September 2026

Purpose

The purpose of this role is to support the delivery of tasks as required by the Horizon Europe-funded BroilerNet project until its completion in 2026.

Key Responsibilities

- 1.** Assist with BroilerNet work package leader responsibilities, such as coordinating meetings, designing and delivering facilitation training for the Broiler Innovation Network Facilitators, collating network data and writing reports.
- 2.** Engage and meet with European partners and BroilerNet stakeholders throughout the life of the project to ensure effective coordination, communication and dissemination. *(Mostly online with some opportunity for in-person meetings in the UK each year and optional occasional travel to European project meetings)*
- 3.** Conduct research into the process and outcomes of BroilerNet in line with RAU ethical guidelines and the requirements of the project.
- 4.** Present findings from the project and the parallel research at meetings, conferences and dissemination events, as well as writing up results for publication.
- 5.** Create material and resources for dissemination events.
- 6.** Collaborate with partners to ensure the longevity of the network beyond its set timeline.
- 7.** Support the delivery of other related tasks, including securing future funding.

General responsibilities:

- The University is committed to equality of opportunity. All staff are required to comply with current legislation, University policies and good practice guidance.
- All staff are required to act in a way that safeguards the health and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults at all times. The post holder must be familiar with and adhere to appropriate safeguarding policies and guidance and participate in related mandatory/statutory training. Managers have a responsibility to ensure their team members understand their individual responsibilities with regard to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.
- All staff are required to participate in the University appraisal process and should ensure they are familiar with the process and plan time to prepare for their appraisal. Following the appraisal, staff are expected to undertake in any necessary learning and development and work towards the objectives that have been set.
- The University expects staff to attend any training designated as mandatory and to undertake learning and development activities to support their role. Managers must facilitate learning and development within their teams.
- It is a condition of employment that staff will not disclose any information obtained in the course of their duties other than to those entitled to receive it. The post holder must ensure that the confidentiality of personal data remains secure and that restricted information or highly restricted information to which they have access remains confidential during and after their employment at Royal Agricultural University. All staff must undergo appropriate data protection training as required.
- All absence from work must be reported in accordance with the University's absence procedures and recorded on iTrent.
- The University acknowledges its responsibility to provide a safe, smoke free environment, to its employees, service users and visitors. It is the policy of the University not to allow smoking on University premises other than in specifically designated areas.

University Values

As a University we have chosen five values to underpin our learning community. These are the values which we will all work by and for which we want the RAU to be known. We are:

- Collaborative - we believe in the power of working together. We are stronger as a community of practice - inspiring each other, identifying shared goals, and providing reciprocal support leads to greater success.
- Open-Minded - we are receptive to new ideas and we value the diversity of experiences and skills. We are committed to listening to everyone across the RAU community.
- Resourceful - we adopt creative approaches to achieve our goals while setting higher standards, promoting professionalism and sustainability.
- Responsible - individually and collectively we take accountability for our actions working with integrity to achieve the highest ethical standards.
- Inclusive - we acknowledge the fundamental value and dignity of all individuals and are committed to maintaining an environment that seeks to eliminate all forms of discrimination and respects diverse traditions, heritages, and experiences.

Person Specification

Requirements The post holder must be able to demonstrate:	Essential or Desirable	Measured By A) Application Form B) Interview C) Presentation
Qualifications:		
PhD or equivalent qualification in social science, agricultural science (livestock) or communication science	Essential	Application form
Facilitation or project management qualification	Desirable	Application form
Knowledge, Experience and Skills:		
In-depth knowledge of qualitative research methodologies, e.g., participatory action research	Essential	Interview
In-depth knowledge of agriculture, particularly UK agriculture and/or the livestock and poultry sector	Desirable	Interview
Experience conducting qualitative research methods, e.g., interviews, focus groups	Essential	Application form
Practical experience in peer-to-peer facilitation, preferably in agricultural context	Essential	Application form & Interview
Experience of European/international projects, particularly in a leadership role	Desirable	Application form
Advanced digital skills for organising and facilitating online meetings	Essential	Application form & Interview
Track record writing reports for technical and lay audiences	Essential	Application form
Track record creating dissemination material e.g., blogs, videos	Desirable	Application form
Experience seeking & securing funding	Desirable	Application form

Application Procedure

If you are interested in applying for this role, please send:

- University [Application Form](#) together with the [Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form](#) available on the University website www.rau.ac.uk) – you may attach your up to date CV if you wish to add additional information.
- Details of two referees who must be people who can comment authoritatively on you as a person and as an employee in relation to the level of the post, and must include your current or most recent employer or their representative.

- Please forward to the HR Team, Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 6JS or via email to jobs@rau.ac.uk stating where you saw the advert for the role
- Informal enquiries can be made to Lisa Morgans-Senior Lecturer Lisa.morgans@rau.ac.uk
- **Closing date:** 5th January 2025 with **Interviews on:** 16th January 2025.
- Should you be selected for interview please be aware that we are unable to reimburse interview expenses.

The RAU is an equal opportunities employer and we particularly welcome applications from black and minority ethnic candidates as they are under-represented within the RAU at this level