

## RECRUITMENT PACK

This document includes the following information:

- Job Description
- Person Specification
- Additional information

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### Making an application:

**Please complete the short on-line application form and attach the following 4 documents.**

Shortlisting is undertaken by a panel after the closing date on the basis of information provided and failure to upload the documents requested could result in an application be rejected.

- A full curriculum vitae (CV) including publication record - you should specify your 4 most significant papers published within the past 5 years. Applicants from within the UK should indicate which publications have been submitted to the REF 2014 and any assessment of the rating for each piece of work; For more information about the REF visit <http://www.ref.ac.uk/>**
- A document of no more than 2 sides of A4 setting out how you meet the requirements of the role as set out in the job specification**
- A document of no more than two sides of A4 setting out your research track record and research plans for the next three years.**
- A document of no more than two sides of A4 setting out, first, your approach to research-led education and how that is informed by pedagogical research and, secondly, how you ensure your continuing professional development as an excellent teacher in higher education.**

**NB. Please do not attach references, articles or other non-requested documents.**

A commitment to sustaining an inclusive and diverse community is one of the University's Core Values and we are keen to address any imbalances in our workforce. We therefore particularly welcome applications from women and those from an ethnic minority, as they are under-represented at this level within the University.

We are proud to have been a Two Ticks employer since August 2008 and, as part of our commitment to this scheme, we guarantee an interview to any candidate with a disability who meets the essential criteria for the post. We also work in partnership with national disability organisation DisabledGo who provide detailed online access guides to many of our campus buildings and facilities which you may find useful.

We are only accepting on-line applications for this post. However, if you have a disability that makes it difficult for you to provide us with information in this way, please contact the Recruitment Team (01206-874588/873521) for help.

**Closing Date: 13 July 2014**

**Interviews are planned for week commencing 28 July 2014**

Produced by:  
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## University of Essex

### **JOB DESCRIPTION – Job ref (ACR353)**

<b>Job Title and Grade:</b>	Reader/Senior Lecturer/Lecturer in Finance
<b>Contract:</b>	Permanent, Full-time
<b>Hours:</b>	A notional minimum of 36 hours per week.
<b>Salary:</b>	Grade 9: £37,756-£45,053 per annum Grade 10: £47,787-£53,765 per annum
<b>Department/Section:</b>	Essex Business School
<b>Responsible to:</b>	Director, Essex Business School
<b>Reports on a day to day basis to:</b>	Head of the Finance Group

To further develop our current teaching and research activities, we are seeking to make an additional appointment in the field of Finance. The post is intended to contribute to and extend the School's international reputation for cutting edge research and high quality teaching in finance.

We welcome applications from candidates with an interest and quantitative specialism in any area of Finance and/or banking such as asset and derivative pricing.

The successful candidate will play an important role in the development of teaching, research, collaboration and administrative activities in the Business School, specifically you will be expected to develop both undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and enhance the school's research profile regionally, nationally and internationally.

#### **Duties of the Post:**

For appointment as **Lecturer** the Duties of the Post will include:

1. Undertaking independent research in the specific area of research interest of the applicant within the area of finance, with the aim of publishing in high ranking journals.
2. Contributing to the development of teaching programmes within the area of finance.
3. Contributing to teaching a range of different full time and short courses and degree schemes, at all levels, including new developments and modes of delivery.
4. Supervising masters and doctoral students, and undertaking assessment and examination duties as specified by the Director of Essex Business School or his/her nominee.
5. Participating in knowledge transfer activities involving businesses and other stakeholders in the wider community, particularly the international academic community.
6. Contributing to the development and provision of new courses and modules, as appropriate.
7. Development of a personal research plan, to include applying for research grants.
8. Undertaking a range of administrative duties, including acting as course director for one or more courses, as specified by the Director of Essex Business School or his/her nominee.
9. Any other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Director of Essex Business School or his/her nominee.

For appointment as **Senior Lecturer** there will be additional Duties of the Post which will include:

1. Leading the development of new teaching programmes in finance.
2. The generation of research grant income, particularly from funding organisations that pay FEC overheads.
3. Providing research support and leadership to junior colleagues in the group.

4. Publishing high quality research in top-ranked peer-reviewed journals.
5. Any other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Director of Essex Business School or his/her nominee

The substantive post is Senior Lecturer, however for appointment as a **Reader**, in addition to the above the applicant must:

Be able to demonstrate a significant research portfolio to include a well-established track record of publications in leading refereed journals, research funding from a variety of sources and capability for dissemination to different audiences for research.

*These duties are a guide to the work that the post holder will initially be required to undertake. They may be changed from time to time to meet changing circumstances and do not form part of the contract of employment.*

*It should be noted that there is a contractual requirement for some members of academic staff to undertake research duties. If this requirement applies to a post it will be clearly stated in the contract of employment (Principal Statement Part 1).*

**Terms of Appointment:**

For a full description of the terms of appointment for this post please visit:

<http://www.essex.ac.uk/hr/current-staff/terms.aspx>

June 2014

**University of Essex**  
**PERSON SPECIFICATION**

<b>JOB TITLE: Lecturer/ Senior Lecturer/ Reader in Finance</b>	<b>POST REF: ACR353</b>
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**Qualifications /Training**

	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
▪ A postgraduate degree or equivalent level qualification in banking, finance or a related discipline.	x	
▪ A PhD in banking, finance or other quantitative specialism related to the area of the post (or be in the final stages of completion).		x

**Experience/Knowledge**

<b>For appointment as a Lecturer:</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
▪ Subject expertise and experience in any quantitative area of finance or banking such as asset and derivative pricing.	x	
▪ Knowledge and understanding of relevant research methodologies.	x	
▪ Evidence of research output, either published or publishable, of peer-reviewed international quality.	x	
▪ Demonstrable evidence of a clear publication plan for submission to future Research Excellence Framework (REF) programmes.	x	
▪ Experience of teaching, or demonstrable potential for achieving this.	x	
▪ Experience of attracting external research funding, or demonstrable potential for achieving this.		x
<b>In addition for appointment as a Senior Lecturer:</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
▪ Experience and in-depth knowledge of research methods, design, and relevant research topics.	x	
▪ A strong record of high quality research publications, including papers in top-ranked international journals	x	
▪ A proven track record of raising research funds and managing research projects.	x	
▪ Proven experience in managing academic (teaching and learning) management issues.	x	
▪ Experience of leading in the development of new teaching programmes in finance or banking.	x	
▪ Experience of PhD supervision		x

**Skills/Abilities**

<b>For appointment as a Lecturer:</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
▪ The ability to complement and strengthen the School's teaching and research activities in the specified areas.	x	
▪ The ability and willingness to play an active part in the administration of the School.	x	
▪ The ability and willingness to work with colleagues as part of a team.	x	
▪ A demonstrable ability to make plans/set objectives, take responsibility and to achieve them.	x	
▪ The demonstrable potential for attracting external research funding.	x	
▪ The ability to contribute to other areas of teaching.		x

<b>In addition for appointment as a Senior Lecturer:</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
▪ Management and leadership skills combined with the ability to motivate and co-ordinate other staff, whilst also working as part of a team.	x	
▪ Demonstrable ability to support the teaching and learning experience of all academic colleagues in a higher education environment.	x	
▪ Excellent organisational, communication and interpersonal skills.	x	

For appointment as a **Reader**, all of the above plus to be able to demonstrate a significant research portfolio to include a well-established track record of publications in leading refereed journals, research funding from a variety of sources and capability for dissemination to different audiences for research.

**For appointment at either level:**

**Other**

	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
▪ A willingness to be involved in extra-curricular activities within the School e.g. open days etc.	x	
▪ *The ability to meet the requirements of the UK 'right to work' legislation.	x	

\*If you require Home Office permission to work in the UK, or need to switch your visa status in order to take this job, please note that following the introduction by the UK Government of immigration limits on skilled workers we recommend you use the following link to information about the routes into employment and to check eligibility requirements:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/workingintheuk/>

June 2014

# Working at the University of Essex

We are an internationally oriented research-intensive university with a commitment to excellence in research and education, to the personal development of all our students, and to offering an outstanding campus-based student experience. Our commitment to research that matters and that has global impact, informs all that we do.

## Benefits

- Pension scheme
- Generous holiday entitlement
- Competitive salaries
- Training and development
- Childcare facilities/vouchers
- Relocation package for qualifying staff
- Interest free season ticket loan
- Range of optional salary exchange tax benefits (pension, childcare and bicycle schemes)

## Essex Business School

Essex Business School (EBS) was established in 2008 through a merger of the School of Accounting, Finance and Management and the School of Entrepreneurship and Business at the University of Essex. It is the largest department at the University with over 1700 students, and delivers a large financial surplus to the university. The strategic plan sees the number of students grow to over 2000 on campus with a further 500 off campus. It has links with large corporate businesses such as Invesco, BP and HSBC and continues to grow this network along with its engagement with small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

The Knowledge Gateway is a 43-acre site being developed around the twin themes of supporting small and medium sized enterprises through a Centre for Enterprise and Growth based in EBS (CEG), the ESRC Data Research Centre for Smart Analytics (DRC), and University-wide work on big data through the Institute for Data Analytics and Data Science (IDADS). The Knowledge Gateway will provide research and development and office space for start-up businesses through to major blue-chip companies eventually creating up to 2,000 jobs. The University has invested £7 million in core infrastructure and a further £2.4 million in 15,000 sq. ft. of high quality office space available from the spring of 2014. Three subsequent phases of development will provide an Innovation Centre, business incubator unit and further office space. [http://www.essex.ac.uk/knowledge\\_gateway/](http://www.essex.ac.uk/knowledge_gateway/)

In Autumn 2014, the School will move to a new £23 million, state-of-the-art, carbon positive building, which is the largest single wooden structure in Europe. Its sustainable design features a winter garden, formal and informal learning and teaching space, a 250-seat lecture theatre, comprehensive ICT provision, social spaces and a café. <https://www.essex.ac.uk/ebs/building/>

EBS also has a major presence at Southend providing courses in Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Marketing, Business Administration, and International Business, has over 300 students and is the base for 15 staff as part of a multidisciplinary campus of 1,000 students. The campus at Southend has excellent transportation links with rail services to London, Southend Airport, and road networks to the greater London area. On campus, the Gateway Building provides state-of-the-art teaching, business and study facilities. The Forum was opened in the summer of 2013 and is a £27 million facility that houses a comprehensive library, teaching spaces and a 24-hour Learning Hub. <http://www.theforumsouthend.co.uk/about-the-project/> The University's Clifftown Theatre and Studios offers unique rehearsal and performance space in a converted church. University Square, our student accommodation complex, has become an iconic building in the town centre and is also home to our new Evolve gym and fitness studio. Courses at Southend are offered by Essex Business School, the Centre for Education and Social Care, the School of Health and Human Sciences, East 15 Acting School and the Centre for Psychoanalytic Studies.

The School is led by its Director (Dr Gwyn Jones) with a Senior Leadership Team comprising the Director of Education (Professor Phil Hancock), Director of Operations (Professor Neil Kellard), Professor Vania Sena, Dr Kelum Jayasinghe, and the School Manager (Ms. Berna Casey). The

School is organised into four subject groups each with its own Head of Group: (1) Accounting, Colchester; (2) Finance, Colchester; (3) Management, Marketing and Organisation, Colchester; and (4) Marketing, Entrepreneurship and Global Strategy Group (MEGS), Southend.

The School's reputation for high quality research was confirmed with recent large awards made by ESRC, and in the results for RAE 2008 where the School was ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Accounting and Finance Unit of Assessment. Furthermore, 90% of the research output submitted, which included submissions from members of the accounting, finance and management groups, were graded as producing work of international quality.

Our Employability rating (figures for all work and study) is 85.8% and the School achieved excellent results in Student Satisfaction academic year 2014/15.

The strategic direction of the School is supported by an Advisory Board that comprises leading external practitioners from key corporations in the fields of business and finance.

### **The Finance Group and Essex Finance Centre**

As a result of the university's strategic emphasis on expanding finance research and education at Essex, the Finance Group formally established Essex Finance Centre in September 2003. It seeks to bring together more effectively and accessibly the range of expertise in finance that exists within the University of Essex, and the Essex Business School in particular. Members of the Centre have a national and international reputation for applying leading edge scholarship to the understanding of financial processes, and the development of practical but theoretically informed perspectives on financial and banking problems.

The objectives of the Centre can be enumerated as follows:

- a) To make a major contribution to the School's next REF entry by continuing to produce research of the highest quality in all areas of finance and generally raising the visibility of finance at Essex.
- b) To attract high calibre research students both from the UK and from overseas.
- c) To provide a springboard for external funding applications to bodies such as the ESRC and, in the medium term, for sponsorship from City institutions.
- d) To run research workshops and conferences in finance both to generate debate and to disseminate the research findings of its members.
- e) To publish and make available on the web a Finance Discussion Paper series.
- f) To provide a focus for attracting more visiting scholars from top universities. Recent visitors include Prof Phelim Boyle, University of Western Ontario, Prof Michael Brennan, UCLA, California, Prof Mark Wohar, University of Omaha, Nebraska and Prof Tyler Shumway, University of Michigan.
- g) To establish links with finance professionals working at institutions in the City of London and elsewhere.

The Finance group run their own external seminar speaker series, hold regular staff workshops and have a working paper series. Collaborative work within the Centre and across the university is encouraged. Essex University has some of the best social science researchers in the UK.

Further information on the School can be found at: <http://www.essex.ac.uk/ebs/>

### **General information**

Informal enquiries may be made to Professor Neil Kellard (telephone: 01206 874153, e-mail: [nkellard@essex.ac.uk](mailto:nkellard@essex.ac.uk)). However, applications must be made online.

### **No smoking policy**

The University has a no smoking policy.

## **The University – a profile**

### **Our vision**

Our ambition is that by 2019 we will be acknowledged nationally and internationally as a leading research-intensive university. As a result of achieving this ambition by 2019 we will be firmly established in the top 25 of UK universities, and all of the subjects offered by the University will be ranked within the top 20 per cent of their discipline within the UK.

We have a broad spread of subjects covering humanities, science and health and social sciences. We have particular strengths in the social sciences and humanities and especially in interdisciplinary research, notably in human rights and quantitative social and economic research. We are proud of our track record of business engagement. Our commitment to this area has been consolidated by a £7m investment in the Knowledge Gateway, 43 acres of parkland at our Colchester Campus created so that small businesses and blue-chip companies can benefit from close links with our academic community, our research facilities and business development activities.

Our academic community comprises 12,500 students and 2,200 staff. The University has three friendly purpose-built campus environments. The Colchester Campus, Essex's largest and original site is set in 200 acres of parkland. It incorporates teaching buildings, shops, banks, a gallery and theatre, bars and cafes, and sufficient student accommodation to house over half of our student population and 90% of our students are based here. The East 15 Acting School – founded by Joan Littlewood and one of the top five acting conservatoires in the UK – is in Loughton just five minutes from London Underground's Central line. The Southend Campus, in the heart of Southend-on-Sea, opened in 2007 and is home to courses delivered by Essex Business School, the School of Health and Human Sciences, East 15 Acting School and the Centre for Psychoanalytic Studies.

We also have some 4,500 students studying for University of Essex-validated degrees at our partner institutions across Essex and further afield at:

- Writtle College;
- South Essex College;
- Colchester Institute;
- Kaplan Open Learning; and
- Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust Foundation.

A further 5,000 are studying for jointly accredited University of Essex-University of East Anglia degrees at University Campus Suffolk.

Essex also has a great reputation for the campus-based experience that we offer our students, providing opportunities for participation in a wide range of extra-curricular activities, engagement in an amazing range of student clubs and societies, and an extensive programme of student volunteering and sport. At Essex we are especially proud of our close working relationship with our award-winning Students' Union, which plays a key role in enhancing the quality of our students' experience.

## **The Faculties**

The University is organised around three faculties comprising: the Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Social Sciences, and Faculty of Science and Health. Each Faculty is led by an Executive Dean with specific responsibility to the Vice-Chancellor for budget, education and research performance and staffing issues.

### ***The Faculty of Humanities***

Bringing together four research-active Departments, one of the UK's leading acting schools, the University's International Academy and various specialist centres the Faculty fosters creative and critical thinking applied to human practices and the creative arts, taking an interdisciplinary approach to applying fundamental theoretical and practice-led inquiries to the ethical and cultural challenges of the twenty-first century. The Faculty's world-class research strength was confirmed by the most recent Research Assessment Exercise (RAE 2008) which ranked history second, art history ninth and philosophy tenth.

The internationally renowned East 15 Acting School based at Loughton and Southend consistently ranks in the top five conservatoires in the UK. In 2009 the University was awarded the Queen's Anniversary Prize in recognition of its pioneering role in advancing the legal and broader practice of international human rights. The Human Rights Centre (HRC) has built itself a pre-eminent reputation for interdisciplinary research and teaching with an outstanding record for innovative research,



publication and practice.

#### ***Departments within the Faculty***

- East 15 Acting School
- Department of History
- Human Rights Centre
- The International Academy
- School of Law
- Department of Literature, Film, and Theatre Studies
- School of Philosophy and Art History.

The Faculty comprises 190 academic and research staff supported by 95 administrative, technical and other staff. The Faculty hosts 3,500 students and has an income of £30m.

#### ***The Faculty of Science and Health***

Internationally acknowledged as leaders in pure and applied human sciences and information technologies with internationally recognised expertise in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. We apply fundamental research to real-world problems, from understanding Alzheimer's disease to using robotic fish to monitor the environment, and have partnerships with multinational companies, such as BT and Mitsubishi, through to local SMEs, NHS Trusts and environmental organisations. Our state-of-the-art facilities include our £1.5m Networked Media Laboratory, our £3m Centre for Brain Science and our tropical research aquarium facility within our Coral Reef Research Unit.

#### ***Departments within the Faculty***

- School of Biological Sciences
- School of Computer Science and Electronic Engineering
- School of Health and Human Sciences
- Department of Mathematical Sciences
- Department of Psychology.

Some 270 academic and research staff work in these Departments and Schools and are supported by 130 administrative and technical staff. The Faculty hosts 4,250 students and has an income of £40m.

#### ***The Faculty of Social Sciences***

The Faculty of Social Sciences boasts an outstanding international research reputation that places the University as the top university for social sciences in the UK, as confirmed by the most recent Research Assessment Exercise (RAE, 2008), and in the top 100 in the world, with politics and sociology ranked first, economics third and linguistics fourth nationally. Essex Business School was ranked second in the UK for accounting and finance research. The Faculty is also home to three internationally renowned ESRC-funded centres in the social sciences – the Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER), the Research Centre on Micro-social Change and the UK Data Archive. In 2013 Her Majesty the Queen awarded the University of Essex a Regius Professorship in Political Science - one of only two universities to hold a Regius Professorship in the Social Sciences and one of the youngest universities to hold a Regius Professorship.

#### ***Departments within the Faculty***

- Department of Economics
- Essex Business School
- Department of Government
- Department of Language and Linguistics
- Centre for Psychoanalytic Studies
- Department of Sociology
- Institute for Social and Economic Research
- The UK Data Archive.

Some 275 academic and research staff work in these Departments and Centres, who are supported by 170 administrative, technical and other staff. The Faculty hosts 4,750 students and has an income of some £65m.

### **Our strengths**

- **Committed to research excellence:** ranked ninth overall for research quality (most recent UK Research Assessment Exercise, 2008) with politics and sociology ranked first, history second, economics third, linguistics fourth, art history ninth and philosophy tenth. Essex Business School was ranked second for accounting and finance research.
- **World leader in the social sciences:** the University is ranked first for social sciences. In 2009 the University was awarded a prestigious Queen's Anniversary Prize Award for pioneering work in international human rights. In 2013 Her Majesty the Queen awarded the University of Essex a Regius Professorship in Political Science - one of only two universities to hold a Regius Professorship in the Social Sciences and one of the youngest universities to hold a Regius Professorship.
- **High levels of student satisfaction:** student satisfaction in the 2013 National Student Survey (NSS) for Essex was 93 per cent, compared with a national average of 85 per cent, confirming Essex's second place amongst more than 100 mainstream UK universities. Alongside a prestigious Investors in People Gold Award in 2011, the University of Essex Students' Union was in an elite group of only ten students' unions to win an NUS Students' Union Evaluation Initiative Award for the quality of its services and in December 2011 it won the NUS/UK Council for International Students award for Democracy and Representation.
- **International outlook:** Essex is one of the world's most internationally diverse campus universities, with 40 per cent of our students from outside the UK, representing 130 countries. We take pride in being globally recognised, being ranked in the top 50 in the world for universities under 50 years old by QS. This was confirmed by Times Higher Education's own 'Top 100 under 50' ranking Essex in the top 30 in the world and fifth in the United Kingdom.
- **Strong financial performance:** with a turnover in excess of £160 million we are generating strong surpluses and are towards the end of a capital investment programme in the region of £177 million.

## Research

In the most recent UK Research Assessment Exercise (RAE, 2008) 22% of our research was rated as world leading, 63 per cent rated as at least internationally excellent, and 93% rated as at least internationally recognised. This placed Essex ninth in the UK for the quality of our research. Politics and sociology were ranked first, with economics third and linguistics ranked fourth. In humanities history was ranked second, art history ninth and philosophy tenth. Essex Business School was ranked second for accounting and finance research. Our concentration of world-class social science research has established Essex as the UK's leading university for the social sciences and Essex is ranked first for receipt of research funding from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

Our long-standing commitment to internationally excellent research is combined with a strategy that seeks to recruit the highest-calibre researchers, support our emerging research stars and build high quality collaborative partnerships with targeted institutions around the world. Our peaks of research excellence include: Molecular Biophysics Group and Molecular Medicine Group (Biological Sciences); Centre for Brain Science (Psychology); Centre for Human Rights (Law); Essex Autonomy Project (Philosophy); Game Theory Group, Labour Economics Group and Econometrics Group (Economics); International Relations and Conflict Resolution Group, Comparative Political Economy Group and Political Theory Group (Government); Centre for Criminology, Centre for Economic Sociology and Innovation, and Migration Group (Sociology).

The University is home to three internationally renowned ESRC-funded research centres in the social sciences, the Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER) led by Professor Heather Laurie which co-ordinates a wide range of projects including Understanding Society, a world-leading study of socio-economic circumstances and attitudes of 100,000 individuals in 40,000 households and the ESRC Research Centre on Micro-social Change (MISOC). The ESRC also funds the UK Data Archive, led by Matthew Woollard and based at our Colchester campus, which supports UK and international social science and humanities research and teaching by managing data and digital resources, and global promotion and dissemination of these resources. The Data Archive holds the UK's largest collection of digital research data in the social sciences and humanities with more than 6,000 national and international data sets.

The University hosts an ESRC doctoral training centre in the social sciences as well as an AHRC doctoral training centre as part of CHASE, a consortium of leading arts and humanities universities in the south east of England. On the science side, the University has recently been awarded a NERC doctoral training partnership, entitled 'Environment East (EnvEast)' as well as an EPSRC IGGI

(Intelligent Games and Game Intelligence) Doctoral Training Centre together with the University of York. We will soon submit one further bid to the BBSRC.

## **Education**

An Essex education is based on research-led teaching that is collaborative in nature and takes place in a supportive and well-resourced academic environment. We take our commitment to research-led teaching very seriously indeed and faculty are expected to be great researchers and great teachers; our curricula is regularly updated by the latest research; and our students not only learn from great researchers but undertake research themselves developing skills of critical enquiry, independent learning and intellectual creativity. Because our University is on a human scale, there is also a very strong sense of community and faculty and students join in a common search for answers to global challenges. We are constantly working to improve the quality of our teaching and learning. In 2013-14 the development of a new Education Strategy will be an important vehicle for leading further enhancements to the type of research-led education that we offer.

Students at Essex enjoy a flexible degree structure which allows them to try new subjects during their first year, change degree choice at the end of the first year and take a number of optional courses. Resources and facilities include the Albert Sloman Library which holds more than a million books, pamphlets, e-publications and microforms, the myEssex web portal; open access computer laboratories as well as network connections in all student study bedrooms.

Over recent years we have invested £6m in the flagship Ivor Crewe Lecture Hall, built a new media centre, specially equipped dance and drama studios and in 2012 opened the £5m Tony Rich Teaching Centre. In 2013 a new student village known as the Meadows opened at our Colchester campus, with 650 new study bedrooms and additional student facilities. A £26m new student centre and library extension and a £23m building which will house Essex Business School will all open in academic year 2014-15. In 2012 the University opened a £36m University Square comprising student accommodation and a new teaching suite at Southend, and in 2013 we have opened the £27m Forum Building that houses a library, gallery, research and learning facilities.

The University is home to three outstanding theatres and great sports facilities which have benefited from a £1.4m redevelopment. The University has its own art gallery, Arts on 5, and a Latin American art collection (ESCALA) unique to the northern hemisphere that has recently received national accreditation. These facilities help to make the Essex experience special for our staff and students

## **The UK's international university**

For Essex, internationalism is key to enhancing the diversity and equality of all our students and staff. We have an international outlook in all that we do and we are Britain's most internationally-diverse campus university, with 40 per cent of our students from outside the UK from over 130 countries.

Our research, teaching and knowledge exchange activities are all international in character through initiatives such as the Study Abroad programme, Languages for All, the Global Alliance comprising members from India, Brazil, Germany, and Botswana and the Global Challenges initiative. Our research is internationally focused on solving global problems and we take pride in our international reputation, being ranked in the top one per cent in world rankings.

In 2012, QS ranked Essex in the top 50 in the world for universities under 50 years old. This was confirmed by Times Higher Education's own 'Top 100 under 50' ranking Essex in the top 30 in the world and fifth in the United Kingdom.

## **Alumni**

We now have 77,000 alumni and being part of the University of Essex community extends beyond the time our students are at Essex. Our graduates include former President of Costa Rica and Nobel Prize winner Oscar Arias; Speaker of the House of Commons Rt Hon John Bercow MP; and architect Daniel Libeskind.

In the arts and media our alumni include Stephen Daldry and Mike Leigh; Booker Prize winner Ben Okri; and in academia Nobel Economics Prize winner Christopher Pissarides. International, inclusive and interdisciplinary, an Essex degree helps our graduates stand out from the crowd.

## **Colchester, Essex and Suffolk**

Essex is a county of enormous contrasts and surprising variety, stretching from suburban London in the west to peaceful creeks and estuaries, picturesque sailing villages and popular seaside holiday resorts in the east. It is still a predominantly rural area, with gently rolling countryside interspersed with attractive villages and small country towns. On the border of Essex and Suffolk, Colchester is Britain's oldest recorded town and was once the Roman capital.

It has developed in recent years into a regional centre of commerce and high technology, with a population of 180,000. The town's historical past is evident with the Norman castle keep standing on the visible remains of the Roman temple of Claudius. The Dutch quarter is a living reminder of the influx of Flemish weavers fleeing persecution. The surrounding area inspired famous English landscape artists like nineteenth-century landscape painter John Constable, eighteenth-century artist Thomas Gainsborough and twentieth-century equestrian artist Sir Alfred Munnings. Constable painted Wivenhoe Park – our Colchester campus - as well as many local scenes in the area of outstanding natural beauty around nearby Dedham and Flatford. Colchester's artistic tradition remains strong today, with the opening in September 2011 of the £28 million visual art destination firstsite in the heart of the town and showcases work of regional, national and international artists and also houses a selection of the University's art collection.

The area benefits from some of the very best state primary and secondary schools in the UK, many in the Colchester area. Many staff live in Colchester or in nearby villages in north Essex and Suffolk, notably Wivenhoe, a village of 7500 people one mile from the Colchester campus on the banks of the River Colne.

### **Colchester Campus**

Forty-six minutes from London Liverpool Street, Colchester is served by a good road network linking London, Ipswich, Cambridge, and Norwich, Kent and the south east of England. The Channel ports are easily accessible via the Dartford Crossing. London Stansted Airport is thirty miles away and takes under an hour to get to from our Colchester Campus.

### **Southend Campus**

Located in a town of 165,000 people on the Essex coast, the Southend Campus is forty miles from central London. With seven miles of award-winning coastline Southend attracts more than six million visitors each year. The town has a lively entertainment and cultural scene, with a programme of events throughout the year. London Southend Airport is a regional hub for London with regular flights to major European destinations.

### **Loughton Campus**

Home to East 15 Acting School. Based around Hatfields, a beautiful Georgian dower house, set in five acres of landscaped grounds. The Campus is close to the ancient Epping Forest, and is just five minutes' walk from the Debden underground station with a fast Central line link into central London.

March 2014