University of Strathclyde Glasgow

Academically Advanced
Socially Progressive

Great minds. Innovative Solutions.

Professor of Financial Technology (AI)

Department	Accounting and Finance (www.strath.ac.uk/business/accountingfinance/)		
Faculty	Strathclyde Business School (www.strath.ac.uk/business/)		
Staff Category	Academic		
Reports To	Head of Department/Institute	**Grade**	Professorial
Salary Range	Salary commensurate with experience and standing	**Contract Type**	Open Contract
Working Arrangements	Hybrid. The standard requirement across the University is that at least three days per week (based on 1FTE) will be spent working on-site (with flexibility as appropriate).		
Work Location	Strathclyde Business School, Glasgow, UK		

Job Advert

Prestigious Global Talent Fund Opportunity

The University of Strathclyde has been awarded significant funding by UK Research and Innovation's **Global Talent Fund** to recruit leading international researchers in areas of national and global strategic importance. As one of only 12 UK institutions to secure this highly prestigious investment, Strathclyde is uniquely positioned to accelerate its world-class strengths at the intersection of research excellence, industry collaboration and societal impact. This landmark funding underpins the appointment of a new **Professor of Financial Technology (AI)** — a career-defining opportunity to shape the global agenda for AI in financial services. In this role, you will lead internationally recognised research, build ambitious cross-sector partnerships, and drive innovation through Strathclyde's FinTech Cluster, a strategic hub within the University's Technology and Innovation Zone and the Glasgow City Innovation District. We are seeking an outstanding academic leader who will translate rigorous research into real-world impact, harness the transformative potential of AI for financial services, and position Strathclyde at the forefront of responsible, high-impact financial technology innovation in the UK and internationally.

Strategic Positioning

The University of Strathclyde, through the Global Talent Fund, is offering an exceptional opportunity to join a world-leading programme of financial technology research and innovation. At the heart of this programme is the University's FinTech Cluster, one of seven strategic clusters within the Technology and Innovation Zone, based in the Glasgow City Innovation District. The FinTech Cluster drives collaboration across the University and with industry, regulators and policymakers, with a distinct focus on frontier technologies such as artificial intelligence, space technology and quantum computing applied in financial services. As Professor of Financial Technology (AI), you will play a key role in advancing this mission through cross-cluster collaboration, particularly with the Industrial AI Cluster, helping to accelerate the safe and effective use of AI in financial services and to generate economic and societal impact regionally, nationally and internationally. A flagship initiative within this ecosystem is the Financial Regulation Innovation Lab (FRIL), a partnership between the University of Strathclyde, FinTech Scotland and the University of Glasgow, where you will contribute to shaping future regulatory innovation by building on existing expertise in Multimodal Generative AI, Explainable AI, Agentic AI, and Earth Intelligence and AI.

Candidate Requirements

We are seeking an ambitious, bold and innovative academic leader with an outstanding track record of research and publication in leading journals, and an established focus on AI in financial services. You will demonstrate the ability to attract substantial external funding, build internationally recognised research groups, and translate rigorous research into real-world outcomes through engagement with industry and regulators. You will provide strategic leadership in developing capacity, partnerships and consortia to secure large-scale funding through regional, national and international programmes. As Professor of Financial Technology (AI), you will contribute to Strathclyde's Vision 2030 by delivering research excellence, advancing teaching and doctoral supervision, and shaping interdisciplinary initiatives that drive productivity, economic development, and the safe, responsible adoption of AI in financial services.

Institutional Context

As *"the place of useful learning"*, the University of Strathclyde is committed to advancing society through excellence in research, education and knowledge exchange, and through creative engagement with partners at local, national and international levels. This mission has recently been recognised with Strathclyde being named Scottish University of the Year and Runner-up UK University of the Year in the *Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2026*, following its recognition as UK University of the Year 2026 by the *Daily Mail*. Strathclyde is now ranked 11th in the UK, climbing nine places in a single year — the largest move of any UK institution — and is the second-highest placed Scottish university. The University has earned praise as "the embodiment of everything a 21st century university should be," with graduate employment rates among the top 20 nationally and a reputation for being a significant driver of Scotland's economy and skills development. These achievements reflect Strathclyde's consistency of purpose, its vibrant and supportive community, and its standing as an internationally recognised technological university that works hand-in-hand with stakeholders to deliver innovation, impact and opportunity.

Strathclyde Business School (SBS) is triple-accredited by AACSB, EQUIS and AMBA, placing it among the top 1% of business schools worldwide. SBS is recognised for its excellent people, strong research profile, extensive links to business and industry, and the synergies it creates between learning innovation and cutting-edge research. In the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021, SBS was commended for its world-leading research environment, with 75% rated as "conducive to producing research of world-leading quality and enabling outstanding impact." The School also leads nationally in terms of research funding success: according to the Chartered Association of Business Schools (CABS) 2025 report, SBS ranks first in Scotland and fifth in the UK for business and management research income, generating £4.4M in 2022/23 and £29.1M over the past decade. This achievement reflects the commitment of SBS academics to collaborative, cross-disciplinary research that attracts substantial funding, addresses pressing societal and business challenges, and translates directly into world-class teaching and impactful partnerships.

The Department of Accounting and Finance is one of the UK's major centres of research in both fields, with leading expertise in environmental accounting, management accounting, corporate finance, portfolio performance, and international investments. In the *Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2024*, the Department was ranked 1st in Scotland and 3rd in the UK for Accounting & Finance, reflecting the quality of its teaching, research and student outcomes. The Department provides an extensive range of Undergraduate, Postgraduate and Research degrees and is recognised for delivering an outstanding student experience. Our Undergraduate Accounting course is accredited by ICAS, ACCA, ICAEW, CIMA and AIA, while our suite of Postgraduate programmes is CFA-affiliated. The Department is also an Academic Partner of the Global Association of Risk Professionals (GARP), further demonstrating our strong engagement with industry and professional bodies worldwide.

Job Description

Brief Outline of Job:

As an acknowledged expert and leader in Financial Technology with a specialism in Artificial Intelligence, you will direct an internationally acclaimed programme of research and innovation in AI applied to financial services. You will provide academic leadership in the field, including through the Financial Regulation Innovation Lab (FRIL), and play a key role in shaping interdisciplinary collaborations across the University of Strathclyde's strategic Technology and Innovation Zone clusters. You will deliver research excellence, secure substantial research and innovation funding, translate research into impactful real-world outcomes for financial services, regulators and society, and contribute at a strategic level to the work of the Department, Faculty and University.

Main Activities/Responsibilities:

1. Provide intellectual and academic leadership in Financial Technology, with a focus on AI, through identifying, developing, and leading significant new research directions.
2. Lead an internationally recognised programme of research in AI and FinTech, disseminating results through sustained publication in leading journals in finance and related disciplines.
3. Secure substantial research and innovation funding from UK, EU and international sources, including industry, government and regulators, with a strong track record of knowledge exchange and impact.
4. Provide strategic leadership to the Financial Regulation Innovation Lab (FRIL), shaping its research, skills and innovation agenda, including engagement with financial regulators and industry partners.
5. Drive interdisciplinary collaborations across the University's FinTech Cluster and other strategic clusters (e.g. Industrial AI, Space, Quantum), contributing to the Technology and Innovation Zone and Glasgow City Innovation District.
6. Oversee the design and delivery of educational programmes in financial technology, with a particular focus on AI in financial services, and contribute to the development of the University's teaching strategy.

7.	Lead the development of knowledge exchange activities, industry partnerships and public engagement, influencing policy and practice at national and international level.
8.	Supervise and mentor PhD students and early career researchers, supporting capacity building in financial technology.
9.	Contribute strategically to the work of the Department, Faculty and University, including leadership roles in committees, management groups and interdisciplinary initiatives.
10.	Engage in continuous professional development to maintain expertise and leadership in the field.

Person Specification

	Educational and/or Professional Qualifications (E=Essential, i.e. a candidate must meet all essential criteria to be considered for selection, D=Desirable)	Essential/ Desirable	Assessment Method
E1	Good honours degree and PhD (or equivalent) in Finance, Financial Technology, Artificial Intelligence, or a closely related discipline.	Essential	Application/CV
D1	Membership of relevant professional or learned societies (including the Higher Education Academy or equivalent).	Desirable	Application/CV
	Experience		
E2	Research interests in Financial Technology and Artificial Intelligence consistent with the strategic direction of the Department, Faculty and University.	Essential	App/CV/ Interview
E3	Established international reputation as an expert and leader in AI applied to financial services.	Essential	Application/CV
E4	Ability to build, lead and promote an internationally leading research group in FinTech/AI.	Essential	Interview
E5	Extensive experience of delivering high-quality teaching to undergraduate and postgraduate students, and supervision of doctoral research.	Essential	Application/CV
D2	Sustained track record of developing and delivering educational programmes in financial technology or AI.	Desirable	Interview
	Job Related Skills and Achievements		
E6	Outstanding and internationally recognised record of achievement in research and publication in leading journals in finance, AI, or related disciplines.	Essential	Application/CV
E7	Proven ability to attract substantial external research and innovation funding from UK, EU, and international sources, including industry and government.	Essential	Interview
E8	Track record of multi/inter-disciplinary research collaborations and developing external partnerships, including with industry, regulators, and government.	Essential	Interview
E9	Established record of project, budget and staff management at scale.	Essential	App/CV/ Interview
E10	Ability to deliver impactful outcomes for practice and policy grounded in research and scholarship.	Essential	Interview
D3	Established links with industry, regulators, learned societies, government, and/or professional bodies relevant to FinTech.	Desirable	Interview

Personal Attributes			
E11	Strategic thinker with the ability to contribute at a senior level to Department, Faculty and University priorities.	Essential	Interview
E12	Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to present complex ideas clearly and persuasively to academic, industry, regulatory and public audiences.	Essential	Interview
E13	Ambitious, innovative and bold in shaping research and impact in financial technology.	Essential	Interview

Application Procedure

Applicants should visit Strathclyde's vacancies portal and complete an online application form including the name of three referees who will be contacted without further permission, unless you indicate you would prefer otherwise. Applicants should also submit a Curriculum Vitae and a covering letter detailing the knowledge, skills and experience you think make you the right candidate for the job as well as a Research Plan outlining your research strategy for the next 5 years. Applicants should also complete the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form.

University of Strathclyde encourages the recruitment of disabled and neurodivergent candidates. If you need any reasonable adjustments during the recruitment process, please let us know. You are welcome to submit a paper application or a CV instead of the online application form by contacting us at humanresources@strath.ac.uk.

Interviews

Formal interviews for this post are expected to be held in November 2025.

The University is a Disability Confident Employer and operates a guaranteed interview scheme for disabled candidates who meet all the essential criteria for the post that they are applying for.

Other Information

Further information on the application process and working at Strathclyde can be found on our website (http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr/workforus).

Informal enquiries about the post can be directed to Professor Mark Cummins, Professor of Financial Technology (mark.cummins@strath.ac.uk).

Conditions of Employment

Conditions of employment relating to the Academic staff category can be found at: Conditions of Employment and Professorial Zoning.

Rewards and Benefits

Our comprehensive benefits package, including generous annual leave, family-friendly benefits, flexible work options, and a commitment to continuous learning, reflects our appreciation for the valuable contributions of our colleagues.

We understand that each staff member has unique priorities and lifestyles, so our diverse benefits ensure there is something for everyone, details of which can be found on our Rewards and Benefits webpage.

- **Financial Rewards:** We provide attractive financial packages, including competitive salaries, relocation support for employees and a generous pension scheme, with university contributions of 14.5%.

- **Work-Life Balance:** We are dedicated to enhancing healthy work-life balance for our employees. We offer generous annual leave, an additional annual leave purchase option, flexible and agile work arrangements.
    - Annual Leave: Generous entitlement of 27 days (Grade 5 and below) or 31 days (Grade 6 and above), in addition to 11 public holidays and University closure days.
    - Additional annual leave purchase: Option to request purchase of 2 weeks' additional annual leave per year.
    - Flexible and agile working: The University provides flexible work arrangements. You can request arrangements that fit you and your role, such as hybrid, part-time, compressed hours, term-time, adjusted shifts, staggered hours. These requests can be made from the first day of your employment.
- **Family Friendly Benefits:** We offer a variety of enhanced family-friendly benefits to support our employees in balancing work and family responsibilities. These include Maternity Leave, Paternity/Maternity Support, Adoption Leave, Shared Parental Leave, Parental Leave, Carers Leave and support, Family Friendly Research & Scholarship Leave, and access to our on-campus nursery.
- **Career Development:** Our commitment to personal development is reflected in initiatives such as professional courses, subsidised educational programs, coaching and mentoring, leadership development, secondment opportunities, and access to our library.
- **Health & Wellbeing:** We place high importance on the safety, wellbeing, and health of all our staff and offer discounted Strathclyde Sport membership, an Employee Assistance Programme (EAP), Occupational Health Service, and Cycle to Work scheme.
- **Recognition Awards:** At Strathclyde, we place a strong emphasis on acknowledging and rewarding our staff's commitment and exceptional contributions. This is demonstrated through our Long-Service Awards and our Values-based Strathclyde Medals.

PVG Check

This position involves regulated work, making it a legislative requirement that the successful candidate becomes a member of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups Scheme. If appointed, employment with the University will not be confirmed until membership of the Scheme has been received. The successful applicant will be precluded from working with protected groups until that time.

Basic Disclosure

This role requires the satisfactory outcome of a Basic Disclosure Scotland Check. The successful applicant will be asked to carry out a Basic Disclosure Scotland Check (or where based overseas, a Criminal Records Check will be required - details here). Whether an outcome is satisfactory will be determined by the University.

Pre-Placement Health Screening

If you are offered a job with us, you'll be encouraged to let us know about any disability, medical condition, or neurodivergence you have by completing a confidential pre-placement health questionnaire. Completing the questionnaire is entirely voluntary but by doing so we can put in place the right support and make any reasonable adjustments before you start.

Probation

Where applicable, the successful applicant will be required to serve a 12 month probationary period.

Pension

The successful applicant will be eligible to join Universities' Superannuation Scheme. Further information regarding this scheme is available from Payroll and Pensions.

Relocation

Where applicable, the University offers a relocation package to support new employees who meet the eligibility criteria. The relocation package is offered as a contribution towards costs incurred, and is designed to be flexible, allowing staff to use the financial support available in the way that will be most helpful to them. Further details are outlined in the Relocation Policy.

Equality and Diversity

The University of Strathclyde is a socially progressive institution that strives to ensure equality of opportunity and celebrates the diversity of its student and staff community. Strathclyde is people-oriented and collaborative, offering a supportive and flexible working culture with a deep commitment to our equality, diversity and inclusion charters, initiatives, groups and networks.

We strongly encourage applications from Black, Asian and minority ethnicity, women, LGBT+, disabled candidates and candidates from lower socio-economic groups and care-experienced backgrounds.

The University currently holds an Athena Swan **Silver award**, recognising our commitment to advancing women's careers in science, technology, engineering, maths and medicine (STEMM) employment in academia.

University Values

The University's Values capture what we're all about: who we are, what we believe in and what we stand for. Our Values have been derived from how we act and how we expect to be treated as part of Strathclyde.

In delivering **our People Strategy**, we will contribute, act, and make decisions guided by these values.

- **People-oriented:** committed to our staff and students, providing opportunities, and investing in their development.
- **Bold:** confident and challenging in what we do, and supportive of embracing appropriate and managed risk in our decision-making.
- **Innovative:** focused on discovering and applying knowledge with impact and encouraging creative thinking and new ideas.
- **Collaborative:** working together, with our colleagues and external partners, with integrity and in an open, respectful way.
- **Ambitious:** for our institution, staff and students as well as supporting the ambitions of our partners.