



**Faculty of Mathematics and Physical Sciences  
School of Food Science & Nutrition**

**Research Assistant**

**Fixed term for 9 Months**

This post is intended to support process engineering developments. You will assist Professor Malcolm Povey in the operation of a novel processing rig located in the Nestle York Product Technology Centre (PTC) and will be primarily based in York, although you will be expected to travel to Leeds on a weekly basis to attend meetings, for which travel expenses will be paid.

This post requires hands on operation of processing plant, the development of processing protocols the assessment of product, together with careful recording.

**University Grade 6 (£25,513 - £30,434 p.a.)**

Informal enquiries may be made to Professor Malcolm Povey, tel +44 (0)113 343 2963, email [m.j.w.povey@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:m.j.w.povey@leeds.ac.uk).

**Closing Date: 12 January 2015**

**Ref: MAPFS1007**

**Click here for further information about working at the University of Leeds**  
[www.leeds.ac.uk/info/20025/university\\_jobs](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/info/20025/university_jobs)

## **Job Description**

**Responsible to: Professor Malcolm Povey**

**Reports to: Professor Malcolm Povey**

### **Main duties and responsibilities**

- Independently operate novel computer controlled chocolate processing equipment under experimental conditions following instruction by Professor Povey
- Carry out standard tests on the processed chocolate, texture analysis, solid fat content, penetration test, temper test, snap test
- Keep detailed records of process conditions and assessment of product from each process iteration in order to identify optimum operating conditions
- Plan and manage own research activity in conjunction with Professor Povey
- Use research resources such as SAXS/WAXS, texture analyser, tempermeter, laboratories and workshops as appropriate in order to develop the equipment for factory use
- Ensure good day-to-day progress of work, and maintain good records and notebooks
- Provide written monthly report describing progress and intended plans for the following month and attend meetings as required to discuss the project
- Prepare project deliverable reports and presentations
- Interact with, and provide assistance to, other staff in the research group
- Ensure satisfactory compliance in your work with respect to safety etc
- Balance with help the competing pressures of research and administrative demands and deadlines
- Any other duties as may reasonably be required, consistent with the grade of the post

### **Career Expectations**

The University of Leeds is committed to developing its staff. All staff participate in the Staff Review and Development scheme and we continue to work with individuals, supporting them to maximise their potential.

Progression to a higher grade is dependent on an individual taking on an increased level of responsibility. Vacancies that arise within the area or across the wider University are advertised on the HR website - <http://jobs.leeds.ac.uk> - to allow staff to apply for wider career development opportunities.

### **University Values**

All staff are expected to operate in line with the University's values and standards, which work as an integral part of our strategy and set out the principles of how we work together. More information about the University's strategy and values is available at <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/comms/strategy/>.

## **Person Specification**

### **Essential**

- A degree or equivalent qualification in an experimental science or practical engineering skills
- Experimental skills including the use of processing equipment
- Ability and desire to work with scientists from a number of disciplines
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, including written
- Ability to work as a member of a team and to work efficiently and effectively and to meet deadlines and targets
- Effective time management and organisation skills

### **Desirable**

- Background in Physics or Engineering

## **Additional Information**

The University offers generous terms and conditions of employment, a wide range of benefits, services, facilities and family friendly policies. Full details are available on the Human Resources web pages accessible at [www.leeds.ac.uk/hr](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/hr)

## **The Partnership**

The Partnership has been developed by students and staff and describes the mutual expectations of us all as members of the University of Leeds community. More information about the Partnership is available at <http://partnership.leeds.ac.uk>

## **Disclosure and Barring Service checks**

A Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Check is not required for this position. However, applicants who have unspent convictions, cautions, reprimands and warnings, including any pending criminal proceedings must indicate this in the 'other personal details' section of the application form and send details to the Recruitment Officer at [disclosure@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:disclosure@leeds.ac.uk).

## **Disabled Applicants**

The post is located in the School of Food Science & Nutrition. Disabled applicants wishing to review access to the building are invited to contact the department direct. Additional information may be sought from the Recruitment Officer, email [disclosure@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:disclosure@leeds.ac.uk) or tel + 44 (0)113 343 1723.

Disabled applicants are not obliged to inform employers of their disability but will still be covered by the Equality Act once their disability becomes known.

**Further information for applicants with disabilities, impairments or health conditions is available in the applicant guidance.**