



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## CANDIDATE BRIEF

University Clinical Academic Fellow/University Academic Fellow in  
Healthcare and Surgical Robotics



**Salary for Clinical appointments: You will be appointed on the appropriate Clinical Salary Scale depending your level of clinical training.**

**Salary for Academic appointments: Grade 8 (£40,792 – £48,677 p.a.)**

**Reference: MEDEL1081**

**Closing date: 10 March 2019**

**We will consider flexible working arrangements**



# **University Clinical Academic Fellow/University Academic Fellow in Healthcare Robotics and Surgical Robotics**

## **Faculty of Medicine and Health and Faculty of Engineering, School of Medicine and School of Electronic and Electrical Engineering**

**Are you an experienced and ambitious researcher looking to improve patients' quality of life by developing or applying new technologies? Do you have a strong research background in robotics in healthcare? Do you want to further your career in a World-Leading research-intensive Russell Group University?**

With a vision and drive to contribute to a World-Leading research portfolio, as well as a passion for undertaking research-led teaching, you will make a significant impact on the performance, stature and profile of research and student education at The University of Leeds.

The University of Leeds is building its interdisciplinary strength in healthcare robotics. We aim to be a global leader in the development and evaluation of healthcare robotics to transform healthcare provision.

Robotics research at Leeds is highly interdisciplinary, linking the Faculties of Engineering, Medicine and Health, Biological Sciences, and Mathematics and Physical Sciences, and working closely with research-active clinicians in the Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.

We host five national research centres which support this field:

- EPSRC National Facility for Innovative Robotic Systems,
- NIHR Leeds Biomedical Research Centre,
- EPSRC Centre for Innovative Manufacturing in Medical Devices,
- NIHR Surgical Medtech Co-operative,
- EPSRC Medical Technology Innovation and Knowledge Centre

Together, they have attracted the largest portfolio of competitively-obtained funding for biomechanics and robotics in the UK. Within the Engineering Faculty, the [Institute of Robotics, Autonomous Systems and Sensing \(IRASS\)](#) is recognised internationally for excellence in robotic endoscopy and robotic surgery and has secured over £10 million of research funding since 2016.

Our capability for evaluating healthcare robotics is further enhanced by the internationally-recognised [Institute of Clinical Trials Research](#) which has extensive expertise in clinical trials of healthcare technologies and complex interventions. The University has a highly successful track record of translation and commercialisation of

medical technologies, as evinced by the 2017 [Science and Innovation Audit of the Leeds City Region](#).

Two University Academic Fellowships are available. One fellowship will be in the field of surgical robotics; the second fellowship is open to candidates with expertise in developing or applying robotics technologies in orthopaedics, rehabilitation or general surgery. Applications are welcomed from clinically and non-clinically qualified applicants<sup>1</sup>.

**Career Pathway:** Tenure track equivalent post requiring successful completion of a 5 year development plan, leading to appointment to a grade 9 Associate Professor, with the potential for accelerated progression.

## What does the role entail?

As a University Academic Fellow your main duties will include:

- Pursuing a programme of individual and collaborative research, resulting in high quality publications and a national and international profile and engaging with industry and clinical partners as appropriate to attract and co-ordinate major initiatives;
- Promoting the integration of your own research area with other research interests, in the School, Faculty and University;
- Attracting research funding individually and collaboratively to underpin high quality research activity and research programmes/projects;
- Developing a strategy to ensure that your research has the potential for impact beyond academia;
- Undertaking research-led teaching at different levels, with engagement in continual improvement in response to student and other feedback;
- Contributing to the design, development and planning of teaching modules and policy within the subject area as required;
- Working in partnership with students to provide outstanding education and an excellent student experience;
- Contributing to the management of the School or cross university interdisciplinary initiatives by taking on appropriate leadership, management and administrative responsibility;

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<sup>1</sup> If you are clinically qualified these Fellowships provide an ideal opportunity to develop on your existing academic experience and establish a clinical academic career. The nature of your clinical / academic workload profile will be determined by your current level of specialist training and agreement with our local NHS organisations. We actively encourage applications from specialty trainee level to those who already hold specialist registration.

- Leading academic initiatives and projects in research and student education which facilitate School, Faculty and/or University development;
- Participating in the recruitment, management and development of staff as well as acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues;
- Contributing to the development of the discipline or research area, e.g. through organisation of conferences or membership of key bodies setting the strategic direction of the area;
- Contributing to the development and achievement of University, faculty and school strategy within the context of an international, research-led university;
- Becoming a specialist in the field, developing and maintaining an external profile as appropriate to the discipline;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development;
- Carrying out the duties of the post in accordance with University policies, procedures, values and standards, including the Leadership and Management standard.

**Clinical Posts Only:**

- The nature of the clinical / academic workload profile for individual roles will be determined by agreement with our local NHS organisations, with whom we work in close partnership.
- The post will be subject to joint job planning and appraisal by the University and NHS.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

## **What will you bring to the role?**

As a University Academic Fellow you will have:

- Significant proven research experience in an area of healthcare robotics with a developing record of internationally excellent publications;
- Significant experience in robotics research in clinical settings, or in translation of research towards clinical adoption, including an understanding of the clinical and regulatory environments, and evidence of engagement with the wider sector;
- Evidence of the potential to secure significant external funding to support your research activity;
- A clear and compelling academic plan that will deliver academic and more general impact at an international level;
- A clear strategy to connect across the different research groups within the University;

- Experience of presenting research at national and international conferences and/or symposia;
- Evidence of building strong working relationships within and, as appropriate, beyond your own discipline and to contribute to successful projects and collaborations;
- Evidence of building strong working relationships with industrial and clinical partners to contribute to successful projects and collaborations;
- The potential and commitment to undertake high quality and innovative teaching and gain a higher education teaching qualification or award;
- Experience of delivering and engaging with student education where opportunities have existed;
- A high level of interpersonal and communication skills, and a strong ability to communicate effectively in writing and verbally with students, academic and external audiences;
- The ability to lead projects and organise, balance and prioritise work commitments.

For the fellowship in surgical robotics you will have:

- A PhD (or equivalent qualification) in a relevant field, for example Robotics, Mechatronics, Electronic Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science.

For the fellowship in orthopaedic, rehabilitation or general surgery healthcare robotics you will have:

- A PhD (or equivalent qualification) in a relevant clinical science or a science/engineering field that is applied to healthcare.

For appointment in a clinical capacity you will have:

- The ability to demonstrate a high level of clinical experience and competence in the relevant field;
- Full registration with the General Medical / Dental Council / appropriate professional registration e.g. HCPC;
- The appropriate clinical qualification, clinical training and experience: there will be a specific selection process to assess clinical competence.

You may also have:

- Significant expertise in patient and public involvement and engagement with relevant healthcare technologies;
- Evidence of working with healthcare professionals to determine their needs in applying robotics to healthcare;
- Experience of leading on projects and initiatives, including managing resources and conflicting priorities within challenging circumstances;

- A growing track record of successful and innovative teaching at both undergraduate and/or postgraduate level;
- Experience of involvement in postgraduate research supervision;
- Experience of working collaboratively with external partner organisations;
- Experience of mentoring in the workplace.

## How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information page. Applications should be submitted by **23.59** (UK time) on the advertised closing date.

## Contact information

For any queries, please email: [UAFSupport@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:UAFSupport@leeds.ac.uk)

To explore the post further, please contact:

**Professor Rory O'Connor, Pro-Dean for Research and Innovation (Faculty of Medicine and Health)** (orthopaedic, rehabilitation or general surgery robotics)

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 0671

Email: [R.J.O'Connor@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:R.J.O'Connor@leeds.ac.uk)

**Professor Pietro Valdastrì, Chair in Robotics & Autonomous Systems** (Surgical robotics)

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 3706

Email: [p.valdastrì@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:p.valdastrì@leeds.ac.uk)

## Additional information

### Working at Leeds

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area on our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

### Candidates with disabilities

Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found on our [Accessibility](#) information page or by getting in touch with us at [disclosure@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:disclosure@leeds.ac.uk).

## Criminal record information

**Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975**

This post requires an enhanced and barred list criminal record check from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), and any equivalent overseas authorities where relevant. The successful candidate will be required to give consent for the University to check their criminal record status. All applicants are required to make a self-declaration where applicable

Any offer of appointment will be subject to the University being satisfied with the outcome of these checks, in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information page.