



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

University Academic Fellow in Predictive Disease Models, School of Molecular and Cellular Biology, Faculty of Biological Sciences



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

Reference: FBSMB1153

Closing date: 10 March 2019

We will consider flexible working arrangements

University Academic Fellow in Predictive Disease Models School of Molecular and Cellular Biology, Faculty of Biological Sciences

Are you an experienced and ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a strong collaborative research background in predictive disease model systems such as iPSC, 3D culture, organoid and synthetic tissue and keen to maximise the translational opportunities that emerge? 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 provides an environment which fosters the highest quality, cross-disciplinary, cutting-edge research to address global health problems and with our associated hospitals, we offer unrivalled opportunities in a broad range of research in the area of biomedicine. This encompasses the full spectrum of translational medicine from state-of-the-art discovery science including internationally recognised excellence in structural biology, bio-imaging, biomedical physics/engineering to experimental medicine, patient phenotyping, medical-informatics and first in man studies through to clinical practice-changing clinical trials. The University is undertaking a major alignment of our biomedical-clinical research integrating research strengths to provide a coherent strategy with inputs to all stages of the 'patient journey' from diagnosis to cure. This includes major investment in the highest quality, flexible laboratory space to promote multidisciplinary projects, and the highest level of technical support to facilitate our research platforms.

We have identified a huge opportunity to close the gap between our hospital-based clinical research and the discovery science to develop patient data-driven research projects that promote close collaboration between clinical and basic science researchers. To strengthen these collaborations we would like to recruit University Academic Fellows in the broad area of predictive disease models. These experimentally relevant model systems will be used to explore disease states enabling mechanistic investigation as well as therapeutic innovation and evaluation will form a focal point of our efforts to close the gap between the hospital and the research laboratory.

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 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;
- 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.

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?

Applicants will be considered from a very broad range of disease model applications such as, genetic manipulation, bioinformatic underpinning of patient data (e.g. genomic, proteomic) to feed to model systems, microphysiological systems, small molecule screening, microfluidic approaches to organoid and tissue experimentation, engineering of organoid platforms and testing of outputs from disease model systems.

As a University Academic Fellow you will have:

- A PhD in Biology, Pharmacology, Molecular Biology or a related discipline;
- Significant research expertise with predictive disease model systems;
- 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;
- Significant proven research experience within the academic discipline with a developing record of internationally excellent publications;
- Experience of presenting 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 specifically working across multi-disciplinary boundaries in biomedical-clinical partnerships;
- 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.

You may also have:

- 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

To explore the post further, please contact:

Professor John Ladbury, School of Molecular and Cellular Biology (Faculty of Biological Sciences)

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 5669 or 0113-34-30909

Email: J.E.Ladbury@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.

Criminal record information

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

A criminal record check is not required for this position. However, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information page.