



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Food Packaging Coatings Formulations, School of Chemistry



Salary: Grade 7 (£33,199 – £39,609 p.a.)

Due to external funding restrictions, appointments will not be made above £33,199 p.a.

Reference: MAPCH1115

Closing date 2 May 2019

Fixed-term for 18 months, from June 2019

We will consider job share / flexible working arrangements

Research Fellow in Food Packaging Coatings Formulations

School of Chemistry, Faculty of Mathematics and Physical Sciences

Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have an established background in industry-focused coatings formulation research? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive universities?

The Citrusafe project is an ambitious project funded by Innovate UK and BBSRC as part of the Newton Fund Scheme. The project aims to utilise food waste to improve food safety and nutrition security in China. You will join an international team of researchers to develop and apply new technologies to extract high-value components, apply them to the formulation of safe and nutritious foods, and apply them to the formulation of antimicrobial coatings for food packaging. The project involves the University of Leeds, Zhejiang University in China and innovative industrial partners in the UK and China.

You will have a PhD (or have submitted your thesis before taking up the role) in Polymer Chemistry or a closely allied discipline, alongside a strong background in industrially-relevant inks/coatings formulation research. You will also have knowledge of materials chemistry of surface-active reagents as well as polymeric surfaces, plus knowledge of printing and coating application processes. In addition, you will have good planning, communication and team working skills. Knowledge of food packaging is desirable but not essential.

What does the role entail?

As a Research Fellow, your main duties will include:

- Generating and pursuing independent and original research ideas to formulate functional inks/coatings formulations that are suitable for application on food packaging materials;
- Developing and testing inks/coatings formulations for food packaging materials;
- Testing the effectiveness of the inks/coatings formulations in the context of the shelf-life of foods;



- Interacting with the researchers and industry partners in the team to evaluate the effectiveness of packaging for shelf-life extension;
- Developing research objectives and proposals and contributing to setting the direction of the research project and team, including preparing proposals for funding in collaboration with colleagues;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used and results obtained by other researchers and relating such evaluations appropriately to your own work;
- Preparing papers for publication in leading international journals and disseminating research results through other recognised forms of output;
- Working both independently and also as part of a larger team of researchers, engaging in knowledge-transfer and dissemination activities where appropriate and feasible;
- Travelling nationally and internationally, including to China, for project meetings;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development and acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues as appropriate;
- Contributing to the training of both undergraduate and postgraduate students, including assisting with the supervision of projects in areas relevant to the project.

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 Research Fellow you will have:

- A PhD (or have submitted your thesis before taking up the role) in Polymer Chemistry or a closely allied discipline;
- A strong background in industrially-relevant inks/coatings formulation research;
- Knowledge of organic chemistry, plus knowledge of printing and coating application processes;
- Knowledge of materials chemistry of surface-active reagents as well as polymeric surfaces;



- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines, manage competing demands and work effectively under pressure without close support;
- A proven track record of peer-reviewed publications in high impact factor journals;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including presentation skills;
- A proven ability to work well both individually and in a team;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

You may also have:

- Experience of pursuing external funding to support research;
- Experience of designing and delivering projects that address industry needs;
- Experience of working in multidisciplinary and multicultural teams;
- Knowledge of food packaging materials.

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

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

[Professor L Lin](#)

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 6735

E-mail: l.lin@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

A diverse workforce

The Faculty of Mathematics and Physical Sciences is proud to have been awarded the [Athena SWAN Bronze Award](#) from the Equality Challenge Unit, the national body that promotes equality in the higher education sector. Our [equality and inclusion webpage](#) provides more 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.

