



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Cardiovascular Cell Biology, Faculty of Biological Sciences



Salary: Grade 7 (£33,199 – £39,609 p.a.) due to funding limitations it is unlikely an appointment will be made above £33,199 p.a.

Reference: FBSBM1118

Fixed term for 12 months, with a further 12 months funding reserved for this project by the funder, which will be provided based on project progress.

Available from 1 July 2019

We will consider flexible working arrangements

Closing Date: 06 June 2019

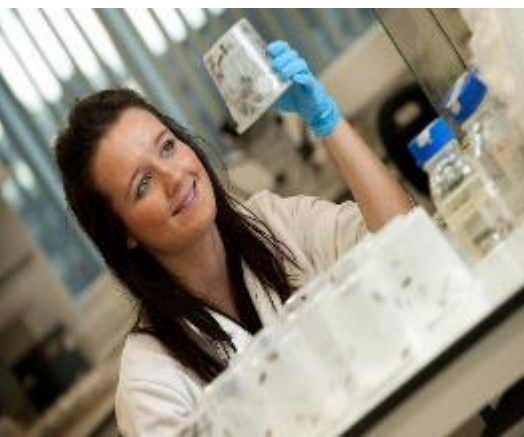
Research Fellow in Cardiovascular Cell Biology School of Biomedical Sciences

Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have an established background in cardiovascular cell biology? Do you want to further your career in one of the UKs leading research intensive Universities?

This post is available to work as a Post-doctoral Research Associate on a Heart Research UK-funded research project, within the School of Biomedical Sciences. The research aims to extend the repertoire of approaches for disease diagnosis to include the active recovery of protein biomarkers from tissues. It will exploit a method that we have developed which biopsies cells without killing them. This project will use the new technique to collect proteins from cells early in disease progress, to see if they can be used as 'biomarkers' to assess when cells have been changed by disease, and track changes as disease develops. The project will use tissue samples obtained from a mouse model of diabetes mellitus, which will be sampled using our newly-developed method (application of styrene maleic acid).

You should have completed your PhD (or be close to completion after successful viva) in physiology, biochemistry, biomedical sciences or a closely-linked discipline. You should have experience in some of the following techniques: tissue isolation, protein isolation, Western blotting, immunocytochemistry, immunohistochemistry, mass spectrometry and a strong background in cardiac/vascular cell biology or biochemistry is highly desirable

The University of Leeds and the Faculty of Biological Sciences are committed to providing equal opportunities for all and offer a range of family friendly policies. The University is a charter member of Athena SWAN (the national body that promotes gender equality in higher education), and the Faculty of Biological Sciences was reawarded a Bronze award in 2017. We are proud to be an inclusive Faculty that values all staff, and are happy to consider job share applications and requests for flexible working arrangements from our employees. Our Athena SWAN [webpage](#) provides more information.



What does the role entail?

As a Research Fellow your main duties will include:

- Designing, planning and conducting a programme of investigation, in consultation with [Dr Andrew Smith](#), [Professor John Colyer](#) and [Dr Karen Porter](#);
- Generating independent and original research ideas and methods in cardiovascular cell biology with an aim to extend the research portfolio;
- Making a significant contribution to the dissemination of research results by publication in leading peer-reviewed journals, and by presentation at national and international meetings;
- Working independently and as part of a larger team of researchers , both internally and externally to develop new research links and collaborations and engage in knowledge transfer activities where appropriate;
- Contributing to the supervision of junior researchers and PhD students and acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used and results obtained by other researchers and relating such evaluations to your own research;
- To contribute to, and to encourage, a safe working environment.

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 close to completion) in in physiology, biochemistry, biomedical sciences or a closely allied discipline;
- Relevant expertise in some of the techniques to be employed (tissue isolation; protein isolation; immunohistochemistry; fluorescent microscopy; immunoblotting);
- Ability to design, execute and write up experimental work independently, particularly with regard to accurate recording of human or GM tissue sample use;
- A developing track record of peer reviewed publications in international journals;



- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal and the ability to communicate your research at national and international conferences;
- The ability to work well both independently and as part of a team;
- Strong initiative and a pro-active approach, with excellent organisational, planning and self-management skills, including the ability to prioritise workloads to meet deadlines/demand and deliver high quality under pressure;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

You may also have:

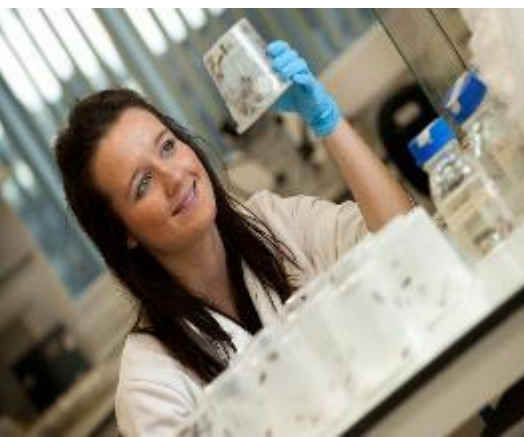
- A strong background in cardiac/vascular cell biology or biochemistry;
- Experience in the use and archiving of human and/or GM tissue samples;
- Experience in work with animals, especially GM animals;
- Experience in fluorescent microscopy;
- Preparation of research data for manuscripts.

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](#).

Your application should include:

- A supporting statement providing evidence to support each requirement listed on the 'What will you bring to the role' section of the Candidate Brief (no more than two sides of A4, minimum font size 11);
- An academic curriculum vitae, including a list of your publications.



Contact information

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

[Dr Andrew Smith](#), Lecturer

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 9804

Email: A.J.Smith1@leeds.ac.uk

[Professor John Colyer](#), Professor of Biotechnology

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 3124

Email: J.Colyer@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Project title: “Detecting hidden markers to investigate and diagnose diabetic vascular disease.”

This research project is part of an on-going collaboration between the School of Biomedical Sciences in the Faculty of Biological Sciences and the Faculty of Medicine & Health, University of Leeds. The post will be based in the School of Biomedical Sciences and will require the design of experimental plans and timescale targets, in conjunction with the lead investigators. The research associate’s duties will include the maintenance of a GM diabetes mouse model and collection of tissue samples, the ‘biopsy’ of these tissue samples using our novel technique and the analysis of the material collected by this method. Methods of analysis will examine: proteins (Western blotting, immunocytochemistry, mass spectrometry) and tissue structural analyses (histochemistry using stains of live and fixed tissue). The study’s objectives are to determine the efficacy of our novel method for the identification of markers of early change in pre-diabetic and diabetic vascular tissue. Where expertise is lacking, the candidate must be willing to undertake any necessary training.

Find out more about the [Faculty of Biological Sciences](#) and the [School of Biomedical Sciences](#)

Find out more about our [Research and associated facilities](#).



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.

