



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Chemical Biology, School of Chemistry



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

Due to funding restrictions, an appointment will not be made above £34,189 p.a.

Reference: MAPCH1117

Closing date: 06 June 2019

Fixed-term for 24 months, from 1 September 2019

We will consider job share / flexible working arrangements

Research Fellow in Chemical Biology, School of Chemistry

Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have an established background in organic chemistry and chemical biology? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?

We are looking for an outstanding Research Associate to work on our EPSRC-funded project "Chemical probes to decode the subcellular redox-regulated proteome" with Dr Megan Wright in the School of Chemistry and the [Astbury Centre for Structural Molecular Biology](#). The aim of the project is to develop new small molecule tools that can be used to label proteins in a time- and spatially-controlled manner inside living cells. This will allow us to investigate redox signalling, a mechanism used by cells to regulate essential cellular processes such as division and growth, but whose dysregulation is linked to diseases and ageing.

Within the role, you will develop chemical probes as well as methods to analyse and apply these tools in biological samples. You will demonstrate the power of your new tools by studying redox processes in plant cells, in collaboration with Professor Alison Baker and Professor Christine Foyer in the Faculty of Biological Sciences, and in human cell lines. This position will provide technical training in interdisciplinary science, and tailored opportunities to support your professional development – for example in grant writing, teaching/mentoring and networking.

Experience of synthetic chemistry and of research at the interface of chemistry and biology are essential. Training can be provided in all other required specific techniques (cell culture, biochemical methods and proteomics).

What does the role entail?

As a Research Fellow, your main duties will include:

- The design, synthesis, purification and characterisation of small molecule chemical probes;
- Evaluating the novel probes via biochemical, cell biological and proteomic approaches;



- Liaising with collaborators at Leeds and externally, on a day-to-day basis as required;
- Generating and pursuing independent and original research ideas in the appropriate subject area;
- 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 to relate 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 activities where appropriate and feasible;
- 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 close to completion – you must have submitted your thesis before taking up the role) in Chemistry, Chemical Biology or a closely allied discipline;
- A strong background in the successful synthesis, purification and characterisation of small molecules and their applications to biology;
- Experience of working with biological samples (such as biomolecules or cells);
- A sustained track record in successfully designing, executing and writing up chemical biology and synthetic chemistry research independently;
- 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 developing track record of high quality peer-reviewed publications in internationally recognised 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:

- Previous experience of cell culture;
- Previous experience of preparing samples and analysing data from proteomic experiments.

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:

[Dr Megan Wright](#), University Academic Fellow in Chemical Proteomics

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 3196

Email: M.H.Wright@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Our research

Further information can be found out about our research on the websites of the [Wright group](#) and the [Astbury Centre for Structural Molecular Biology](#).

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.

