



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Algal Biotechnology, 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: FBSMB1159

Closing date: 01 July 2019

Fixed-term for 4.5 months with a strong possibility of extension to 12 months following funding approval

Research Fellow in Algal Biotechnology School of Molecular and Cellular Biology

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

Applications are invited for a BBSRC-funded postdoctoral scientist, to join the groups of [Professor Alison Baker](#) and [Dr Miller Alonso Camargo-Valero](#) (School of Civil Engineering), to investigate the potential for engineering polyphosphate biosynthesis in *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*, as an approach to remediating phosphate rich waste water. The project involves characterisation of *Chlamydomonas* strains, over expressing key target genes involved in polyphosphate metabolism, and development of mutant screens for poly phosphate hyper accumulators.

You will be joining a project that brings together expertise in waste water remediation, using microalgae in the School of Civil Engineering and expertise in molecular biology and phosphate transport and signalling, in the School of Molecular and Cellular Biology.

You should have a PhD or near to completion - meaning after the student has handed in the initial version of their thesis in Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Genetics or Microbiology or a closely allied discipline with experience in recombinant DNA techniques, RNA and proteins.

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 [Professor Alison Baker](#) and [Dr Miller Alonso Camargo-Valero](#);
- Generating independent and original research ideas and methods in algal biotechnology with an aim to extend the Baker and Camargo-Valero 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;
- Undertaking training and research activities in collaboration with research partners at Cambridge University;
- 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 near to completion - meaning after the student has handed in the initial version of their thesis in Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Genetics or Microbiology or a closely allied discipline;
- Experience in recombinant DNA techniques, RNA and proteins;



- The ability to work across disciplines in order to interact with colleagues in Civil Engineering;
- The ability to design, execute and write up research independently;
- 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;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines;
- A proven ability to work well both independently and as part of a team;
- Ability to work accurately and carefully;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

You may also have:

- Experience in microalgal culture, especially working with *Chlamydomonas*;
- Experience in confocal microscopy or FACS;
- Evidence of pursuing external funding to support research.

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:

[Professor Alison Baker](#), Professor in Plant Cell and Molecular Biology,

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 3045

Email: a.baker@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

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

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.

