



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Neurorehabilitation, 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.

Reference: FBSBM1124

Closing date: 17 August 2019

Fixed-term for 24 months

Research Fellow in Neurorehabilitation School of Biomedical Sciences

Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have an established background in Motor Control and/or Neurorehabilitation? Do you want to further your career in one of the UKs leading research intensive Universities?

This International Spinal Research Trust funded position is available for a fixed term of 24 months, to investigate how transcutaneous electrical stimulation of the spinal cord can be combined with conventional therapy, to help recover arm and hand function following an injury, to the cervical region of the spinal cord. You will work alongside a team of experts in motor control, academic clinicians, occupational therapists, and psychologists supervised by [Dr Sarah Astill](#) and [Dr Ronaldo Ichiyama](#). This truly innovative project, will be the first in the UK, to examine the efficacy of using transcutaneous electrical stimulation for patients with a chronic cervical spinal cord injury.

We are looking for highly motivated individuals, with a strong interest in motor control/behavioural neuroscience, spinal cord injuries and non-invasive neurostimulation. You should have a PhD (or be close to completion) in Neurosciences, Physiology, Sports and Exercise Sciences or a closely allied discipline, with some experience in surface electromyography, and/or non-invasive neurostimulation. Experience in techniques such as kinematic analysis, use of clinical/functional tests to assess arm and hand function, and work with people with an arm/hand impairment and/or a neurological disorder are also 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 Sarah Astill](#) and Dr Ronaldo Ichiyama;
- Generating independent and original research ideas and methods in non-invasive stimulation methodologies and spinal cord injury with an aim to extend the Motor Control and Neurorehabilitation 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 Neurosciences, Physiology, Sports and Exercise Sciences or a closely allied discipline;
- Experience in surface electromyography and/or transcranial magnetic stimulation;
- Strong analytical skills, with the ability to work accurately and carefully, designing, executing and writing 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;
- 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:

- Experience in working with people with arm/hand impairments, and/or neurological conditions;
- Experience in techniques such as kinematic analysis, use of clinical/functional tests to assess arm and hand function;
- 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:

[Dr Sarah Astill](#), Associate Professor in Motor Control

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 7267

Email: s.l.astill@leeds.ac.uk



[Dr Ronaldo Ichiyama](#), Associate Professor in Motor Control

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 4291

Email: r.m.ichiyama@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

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

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 (Exceptions) Order 1975

This post requires a standard criminal record check from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), and any equivalent overseas authorities where relevant. The successful candidate will be required to give consent for the University to check their criminal record status. All applicants are required to make a self-declaration where applicable.

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.

