



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Cardiac Electrophysiology, Faculty of Biological Sciences



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

Due to funding restrictions, it is unlikely an appointment will be made above £34,189

Reference: FBSBM1128

Closing date:

Role available from 1 October 2019. Fixed-term for 3 years

Research Fellow in Cardiac Electrophysiology School of Biomedical Sciences

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

We wish to investigate the role specialised conducting structures, Purkinje fibres, play in the generation and maintenance of aberrant electrical activity in the heart, caused by mechanical stimulation, through a process known as mechano-electric coupling.

The study is a collaboration between research teams at the University of Leeds, UK and Liryc, University of Bordeaux, France www.ihu-liryc.fr. In Leeds, studies on excised, whole hearts will use optical mapping and ECG measurements. Further studies will measure the effects of stretch on the electrical activity of individual Purkinje fibres. The aim is to identify the mechanisms (such as altered ion channel activity and Ca²⁺-handling) that are responsible for stretch-activated arrhythmias. In Bordeaux, isolated ventricles will be used to match electrical activity with structure, using optical mapping and CT imaging. It is expected the researcher will be based in Leeds, but spend 2 months per year working with colleagues in Bordeaux (for which a stipend is available). The successful candidate must be prepared to engage with the multiple techniques and the split-location nature of the project.

To apply you must have a PhD (or be close to completion) in Cardiovascular Physiology or a closely allied discipline and have previous experience in use of some or all of the following, isolated cardiac tissue, optical mapping, or cardiac electrophysiology.

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 [Prof Ed White](#) ;
- Generating independent and original research ideas and methods in Cardiac Electrophysiology with an aim to extend the Cardiovascular 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 be close to completion - meaning after the student has handed in the initial version of their thesis) in Cardiovascular Physiology or a closely allied discipline;
- Experience in use of some or all of the following, isolated cardiac tissue, optical mapping, cardiac electrophysiology;
- 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:

- 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:

[Ed White, Professor of Cardiac Physiology](#)

+44 (0)113 343 4248

Email: e.white@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

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

Find out more about our Research and associated facilities.

[Biological Sciences Cardiovascular Research](#)



Find out more about [Athena Swan](#) in the Faculty of Biological Sciences.

Find out more about our Faculty initiatives.

[Research initiatives](#)

[Cardiovascular Research at Leeds](#)

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.

A diverse workforce

The Faculty of Biological 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.

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.

