



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Muscle Biology, Faculty of Biological Sciences



**Salary: Grade 7 (£33,797 – £40,322 p.a.) Due to funding limitations it is unlikely an appointment will be made above £33,797.**

**Reference: FBSBM1131**

**Closing date: 27 October 2019**

**Fixed-term for 36 months**

## Research Fellow in Muscle Biology School of Biomedical Sciences

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

You will be embedded within a vibrant and translational research team, working alongside clinicians and scientists to better understand the molecular mechanisms of skeletal muscle atrophy in heart failure and diabetes, with a key goal of developing novel small-molecule therapeutics. This project will specifically combine experiments in both humans and animal models to investigate the link between muscle atrophy, mitochondrial dysfunction, and insulin resistance. You will be integrated into an internationally leading team of researchers in the areas of muscle biology ([Dr Scott Bowen](#) and [Dr Siegfried Labeit](#)), metabolism ([Dr Lee Roberts](#) and [Dr Stephen Wheatcroft](#)), and cardiology ([Dr Sarah Calaghan](#) and [Dr Klaus Witte](#)), linking both *in vitro* and *in vivo* molecular and functional muscle measurements.

You should have a PhD (or be close to completion) in biomedical science or a closely allied discipline. A background in skeletal muscle biology, with experience in molecular/cell biology, physiology and/or biochemistry is essential. You should have established skills in the measurement of protein expression (western blot), gene expression (qPCR), and cell structure (immunohistochemistry). Additional experience in mitochondrial biology, and working with animal disease models and/or clinical patient populations would be beneficial.

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 Scott Bowen](#);
- Generating independent and original research ideas and methods in muscle biology with an aim to extending the [Cardiovascular](#) and [Sport and Exercise Sciences](#) and the Leeds Institute of [Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine](#) 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 biomedical science or a closely allied discipline;
- A background in skeletal muscle biology, with experience in molecular/cell biology, physiology and/or biochemistry;
- Established skills in the measurement of protein expression (western blot), gene expression (qPCR), and cell structure (immunohistochemistry), with prior training in primary cell culture and/or single fibre mechanics;
- 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 with the ability to communicate your research at national and international conferences;
- The ability to work well both independently and as part of a team;
- A strong initiative and a pro-active approach, with excellent organisational, planning and self-management skills, including the ability to prioritise workloads to meet deadlines/demands and deliver high quality under pressure;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

You may also have:

- Experience working with animal disease models and/or clinical patient populations;
- Experience in mitochondrial biology, function and signalling;
- 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 Scott Bowen](#)**, Lecturer in Exercise Physiology

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 3834

Email: [T.S.Bowen@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:T.S.Bowen@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](#).

### 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](mailto: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.

