



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Assistant in Membrane Protein Characterisation, Faculty of Biological Sciences



**Salary: Grade 6 (£27,511 – £32,817 p.a. pro rata) Due to funding limitations it is unlikely an appointment will be made above £28,331 p.a. pro rata**

**Reference: FBSBM1143**

**Part time 80% fte**

**Available from 01 September 2020 for a fixed-term of 34 months**

# Research Assistant in Membrane Protein Characterisation

## School of Biomedical Sciences

**Are you an early career researcher looking for your first challenge? Do you have a background in molecular/cell biology, biochemistry or structural biology? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?**

We are looking for a highly motivated person to work as a research assistant in the Membrane Protein Biology group of [Professor Adrian Goldman](#). The project involves state-of-the-art, multidisciplinary techniques to unpick the mechanism of membrane proteins, especially integral membrane pyrophosphatases. You will use molecular biology, protein expression using prokaryotic and eukaryotic expression systems, protein functional studies by techniques ranging from electrochemistry to EPR and protein-protein interaction studies, and be involved in crystallisation and high-throughput screening. You will work closely with a postdoctoral fellow and will be a key contributor to the overall success of our research. In addition, you will perform essential lab duties and develop training and supervision experience in your role supporting other members of the lab.

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 Assistant your main duties will include:

- Contributing to the BBSRC-funded project “Dynamics and catalysis in integral membrane pyrophosphatases”, as directed by [Professor Adrian Goldman](#) and [Dr. James Hillier](#), by expressing and purifying wild-type and mutant pyrophosphatases, including from protozoan parasites as needed, and analysing the effects of the mutations by kinetic analysis, electrometry and





PELDOR/DEER (in collaboration with [Professor Lars Jeuken](#) and [Dr. Christos Pilotas](#));

- Generating original ideas based on the outcome of analysis, in collaboration with members of the Goldman group;
- Contributing to the dissemination of research results in leading peer-reviewed journals and through presentation at meetings and conferences, with guidance as necessary;
- Supporting the activities of the research group to ensure a successful programme of investigation, including participation at group meetings and seminars;
- Providing support and advice to other members of the group, and assisting in the supervision of students;
- Working both independently and as part of a larger team of researchers and stakeholders;
- Continually updating your knowledge, understanding and skills in the research field in which you work.

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 Assistant you will have:

- A first degree in Biochemistry, Biophysics, Structural Biology or a closely allied discipline;
- Performed cell culture and be familiar with aseptic techniques;
- Documented experience with protein purification;
- Experience of working with membrane proteins;
- Substantial research experience with cloning and shuttle vectors;
- Evidence of contributing to papers in internationally recognised, peer-reviewed journals or evidence of publishable research in progress;
- Good interpersonal and communication skills, both written and verbal and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- 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;



- The ability to work accurately and carefully;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

You may also have:

- A PhD or PhD-equivalent experience in structural biology or a closely allied discipline;
- Experience in insect or mammalian cell culture; experience in solving protein structures by x-ray crystallography or cryoEM, or experience in EPR spectroscopy;
- Accepted publications in internationally recognised, peer-reviewed journals.

## 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:

[Professor Adrian Goldman, Chair in Membrane Biology](#)

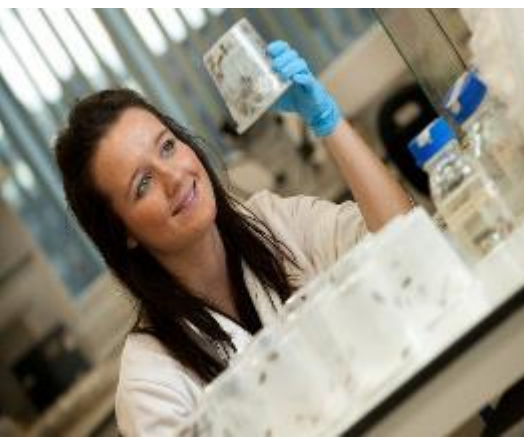
[Email: a.goldman@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:a.goldman@leeds.ac.uk)

## Additional information

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

## 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.

