UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Food Digestion and Health, School of Food Science and Nutrition



Salary: Grade 7 (£33,797 – £40,322 p.a.)

Reference: ENVFS1034

Fixed-term until 19th April 2023

We will consider job-share/flexible working arrangements

Research Fellow in Food Digestion and Health
School of Food Science and Nutrition, Faculty of Environment

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

This post will support the Mackie Research group in determining the role of multiscale structure on the kinetics and pathways of nutrient release. In many food related non-communicable diseases, risk is associated with repeated high levels of systemic exposure to specific components such as monosaccharides, fatty acids etc. In particular, the research group are interested in gastric phase behaviour, mucosal interactions and the role of bile. The focus of the group's research on digestive fate has led to a requirement for a biochemist with the skills to undertake quantitative analysis of digesta produced using in vitro simulations of the upper gastrointestinal tract. In addition, the role of dietary fibre in the altering the bioaccessibility of nutrients is also under investigation involving planned collaborations with the faculties of Biological Sciences and Medicine and Health.

You will have a PhD in biochemistry or a closely allied discipline. You will also have experience in analytical chemistry pertaining to food and nutrients and a basic understanding of human gastrointestinal physiology. You will also have experience of working in a multidisciplinary research environment with a proventrack record of peer reviewed publications in high impact journals. With strong time management and planning skills, you will have the ability to meet tight deadlines, manage competing demands and work effectively under pressure.

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 Mackie;
- Generating independent and original research ideas and methods in food research relating to non-communicable disease with an aim to extend the Mackie group research portfolio;





- Developing research objectives and proposals and contributing to setting the direction of the research project and team including preparing proposals for funding in collaboration with colleagues;
- 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 less experienced 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;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development

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 in biochemistry or a closely allied discipline;
- Experience in analytical chemistry pertaining to food and nutrients and a basic understanding of human gastrointestinal physiology. Experience of working in a multidisciplinary research environment is also essential;
- Experience of quantitative protein and lipid analysis;
- The ability to design, execute and write up research independently;
- A proven track record of peer reviewed publications in high impact factor 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 manage competing demands and work effectively under pressure without close support;
- A proven ability to work well both independently and as part of a team;





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

You may also have:

- Experience in working with human and/or animal tissue or managing human studies including writing ethics submissions;
- 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. 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 Alan Mackie, Head of School of Food Science and Nutrition
Tel: +44 (0)113 343 2959
Email: a.r.mackie@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

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 Environment has also received a prestigious Athena SWAN bronze award from Advance HE, the national body that promotes equality in the higher education sector. This award represents the combined efforts of all schools in the Faculty and shows the positive actions we have taken to ensure that policies, processes and ethos all promote an equal and inclusive environment for work and study.





Candidates with disabilities
Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found in our Accessibility information 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.



