



**Faculty of Biological Sciences  
School of Biology**

**University Academic Fellow  
Biology**

You will undertake research relevant to the School of Biology, which forms part of the Faculty of Biological Sciences, and comprises three overlapping research groupings: Heredity, Development and Disease (HDD), Ecology and Evolution (E&E) and the Centre for Plant Sciences (CPS).

The vibrant research and teaching within the School of Biology covers a very broad range of subjects and scales, from molecular mechanisms in animals and plants through to populations and ecosystems. The Faculty is well equipped with the necessary infrastructures to support research across this diversity of approaches and areas. Being part of a large research-intensive university provides us with excellent connections to other research groupings within and beyond the biological sciences. We are looking to recruit Fellows with excellent research records in any areas of Biology that link to and expand our existing research strengths, although we particularly encourage applications in the following areas:

- Organism-based Synthetic Biology (<http://250greatminds.leeds.ac.uk/faculty/faculty-of-biological-sciences/organism-based-synthetic-biology/>)
- Emerging Infectious Diseases (<http://250greatminds.leeds.ac.uk/faculty/faculty-of-biological-sciences/emerging-infectious-diseases/>);
- Mechanisms Underlying Biological Rhythms in Animals (<http://250greatminds.leeds.ac.uk/faculty/faculty-of-biological-sciences/mechanisms-underlying-biological-rhythms-in-animals/>);
- Pig and/or Poultry Science (<http://250greatminds.leeds.ac.uk/faculty/faculty-of-biological-sciences/pig-andor-poultry-science/>);
- Translational Plant Science (<http://250greatminds.leeds.ac.uk/faculty/faculty-of-biological-sciences/translational-plant-science/>);
- Molecular Plant Science (<http://250greatminds.leeds.ac.uk/faculty/faculty-of-biological-sciences/molecular-plant-science/>);
- Plant Virology (<http://250greatminds.leeds.ac.uk/faculty/faculty-of-biological-sciences/plant-virology/>);
- Ecosystem Services to and from Agricultural Land (<http://250greatminds.leeds.ac.uk/faculty/faculty-of-biological-sciences/ecosystem-services-to-and-from-agricultural-land/>);
- Data Analytics for Agri-environmental Systems (<http://250greatminds.leeds.ac.uk/faculty/faculty-of-biological-sciences/data-analytics-for-agri-environmental-systems/>);

- Evolution, Ecosystems and Environmental Change (<http://250greatminds.leeds.ac.uk/faculty/faculty-of-biological-sciences/evolution-ecosystems-and-environmental-change/>);
- Aquatic Microbial/Algal/Plankton Ecology (<http://250greatminds.leeds.ac.uk/faculty/faculty-of-biological-sciences/aquatic-microbialalgalplankton-ecology/>);
- Genomics of Animal Behaviour (<http://250greatminds.leeds.ac.uk/faculty/faculty-of-biological-sciences/genomics-of-animal-behaviour/>).

A proven record of achievement in international quality publications is essential to contribute to the University's ambition to excel at REF2020. You will align yourself with the University and Faculty strategy including the development of a vibrant and sustained research portfolio. You will co-supervise PhD students. You would also be expected to submit grant applications for a personal fellowship and small individual or networking research grants as well as work with colleagues across the schools to submit larger grants.

**Career Pathway: Successful completion of a 5 year probationary period leading to appointment to grade 9 Associate Professor.**

**University Grade 8 (£38,511 to £45,954)**

For informal enquiries about the role please contact Professor Ian Hope, tel: +44 (0)113 343 2889, email: [I.A.Hope@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:I.A.Hope@leeds.ac.uk), or Christine Foyer, tel +44(0) 113 34 31421, email: [C.Foyer@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:C.Foyer@leeds.ac.uk).

Ref: FBSBY1033

Click here for further information about working at the University of Leeds  
[www.leeds.ac.uk/info/20025/university\\_jobs](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/info/20025/university_jobs)

## **Job Description**

With a vision and drive to develop a prestigious internationally competitive research portfolio as well as a passion for undertaking research-led teaching you will make a significant impact on the performance, stature and profile of research and student education at The University of Leeds.

This University Academic Fellowship (UAF) is for future academic leaders providing an excellent opportunity to establish an academic career at a research intensive university and play a key role in our ambitious plans for the future.

You will embark on a structured five year development programme, successful completion of which will lead to your appointment as a grade 9 Associate Professor.

You will have a PhD (or equivalent qualification/experience), the ability to teach at both undergraduate and postgraduate level, as well as outstanding post-doctoral research experience in a relevant subject area. You will also have the potential to obtain competitive research funding, along with initiative, motivation and enthusiasm for supporting and advancing the University research and student education goals.

## **Main Duties and Responsibilities**

### **Research, Innovation and Impact**

- Pursue a programme of individual and collaborative research, resulting in high quality publications and a national and international profile and engaging with industry as appropriate to attract and co-ordinate major initiatives.
- Promote the integration of your own research area with other research interests and themes, in the school, faculty and University.
- Attract research income on an individual and collaborative basis according to an agreed plan, as appropriate to the field or discipline, to support high quality research activity.
- Develop a strategy to ensure that your research has the potential for impact beyond academia.

### **Student Education**

- Undertake research-led teaching at undergraduate and/or postgraduate level, with engagement in continual improvement in response to student and other feedback.
- Contribute to the design, development and planning of modules and policy within the subject area as required.
- Work in line with the University's Partnership Agreement and with our students as members of a learning community to provide outstanding education and an excellent student experience.

### **Academic Leadership**

- Contribute to the management of the school by taking on appropriate leadership, management and administrative responsibility.
- Lead academic initiatives and projects in research and student education which facilitate school, faculty and/or University development.
- Participate in the recruitment, management and development of staff as well as acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues.
- Contribute to the development of the discipline or research area, e.g. through

organisation of conferences or membership of key bodies setting the strategic direction of the area.

## **General**

- Contribute to the development and achievement of University, faculty and school strategy within the context of an international, research-led university.
- Become a specialist in the field, developing and maintaining an external profile as appropriate to the discipline.
- Maintain own continuing professional development.
- Carry out the duties of the post in accordance with University policies, procedures, values and standards, including the Leadership and Management Standard.

This job description provides a framework for the role and it may be necessary for a University Academic Fellow to undertake any duties commensurate with the post as might reasonably be required.

## **Person Specification**

### **Essential**

- A PhD (or equivalent qualification) in a relevant field.
- A clear and compelling academic plan that will deliver academic and more general impact at an international level, in order to meet the criteria for progression to Associate Professor within the 5 year probationary period.
- Significant proven research experience within the academic discipline with a developing record of internationally excellent publications.
- A track record of gaining competitive research funding.
- Experience of presenting at national and international conferences and/or symposia.
- Evidence of building strong working relationships within and, as appropriate, beyond your own discipline and to contribute to successful projects and collaborations.
- The potential and commitment to undertake high quality and innovative teaching and gain a higher education teaching qualification or award.
- Experience of delivering and engaging with student education where opportunities have existed.
- A high level of interpersonal and communication skills, and a strong ability to communicate effectively in writing and verbally with students, academic and external audiences.
- The ability to lead projects and organise, balance and prioritise work commitments.

### **Desirable**

- Success in gaining significant independent research funding.
- Experience of leading on projects and initiatives, including managing resources and conflicting priorities within challenging circumstances.
- A growing track record of successful and innovative teaching at both undergraduate and/or postgraduate level.
- Experience of involvement in postgraduate research supervision.
- Experience of working collaboratively with external partner organisations.
- Experience of mentoring less experienced colleagues.

## **University Values**

All staff are expected to operate in line with the University's values and standards, which work as an integral part of our strategy and set out the principles of how we work together. More information about the University's strategy and values is available at <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/comms/strategy/>.

## **Additional Information**

The University offers generous terms and conditions of employment, a wide range of benefits, services, facilities and family friendly policies. Full details are available on the Human Resources web pages accessible at [www.leeds.ac.uk/hr](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/hr)

## **The Partnership**

The Partnership has been developed by students and staff and describes the mutual expectations of us all as members of the University of Leeds community. More information about the Partnership is available at <http://partnership.leeds.ac.uk>

## **Disclosure and Barring Service checks**

A Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check is not required for this position. However, applicants who have unspent convictions must indicate this in the 'other personal details' section of the application form and send details to the Recruitment Officer at [disclosure@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:disclosure@leeds.ac.uk).

## **Disabled Applicants**

Disabled applicants wishing to review access to the building are invited to contact the department direct. Additional information may be sought from the Recruitment Officer, email [disclosure@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:disclosure@leeds.ac.uk) or tel + 44 (0)113 343 1723.

Disabled applicants are not obliged to inform employers of their disability but will still be covered by the Equality Act once their disability becomes known.

**Further information for applicants with disabilities, impairments or health conditions is available in the applicant guidance.**