



Faculty of Biological Sciences

Molecular and Cellular Biology

University Academic Fellow

Molecular Mechanisms of Cancer Biology

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 a tenure track equivalent post for future academic leaders which provides 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.

Understanding the molecular mechanisms involved in the development and biological activity of cancer cells is a burgeoning area of current research. Cancer Genome and other high content data projects are revealing new proteins for study at the molecular level in cancer cells and also as new drug targets.

You will therefore develop a research profile exploiting advances in cancer genomic technologies at the level of individual proteins and protein complexes as well as being able to study them in complex biological pathways in cancer cells. A proven record of achievement in international quality publications is essential to contribute to the University's ambition to excel at REF2020. You will also be expected to attract research income on an individual and collaborative basis with colleagues in the School of Molecular and Cellular Biology, Faculty of Medicine and Health and Astbury Centre of Structural Molecular Biology.

In addition, you will provide research supervision and attract research students to the University and undertake a teaching load deemed appropriate by the Head of School, which will be significantly reduced in the first years of the fellowship.

Excellent facilities and infrastructure are available for structural molecular biology analysis (protein crystallography, NMR, mass spectrometry and protein interaction techniques), in addition to cell-based imaging, including confocal, super-resolution and electron microscopy. Moreover, high content screening facilities are available through the BioScreening Technology (adhiron, siRNAs) and Medicinal Chemistry (small molecule) groups.

You should also have a strong research background in cellular biology, structural molecular biology or protein biochemistry in the area of proteins involved in cancer. Individuals with experience of attracting external funding are particularly encouraged to apply.

Career Pathway: Tenure track equivalent post requiring 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 either Professor Adrian Whitehouse, Director of Research, School of Molecular and Cellular Biology, tel: +44 (0)113 343 7096, email: A.Whitehouse@leeds.ac.uk or Professor David Westhead, Head of School, Molecular and Cellular Biology, tel: +44 (0)113 343 3116, email: D.R.Westhead@leeds.ac.uk.

Ref: FBSMB1002

Click here for further information about working at the University of Leeds
www.leeds.ac.uk/info/20025/university_jobs

Job Description

Reports to: Head of School

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 the University policies, procedures, values and standards, including the Leadership and Management standards.

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.

Faculty of Biological Sciences

Research in the Faculty of Biological Sciences at Leeds seeks to understand fundamental principles and mechanisms in biology and engage with global challenges in the areas of 'Sustainable Agriculture' and 'Biomedicine and Health'. To address such challenges we harness the interdisciplinary skills available in our large Faculty. We also work closely with other scientists, clinicians and engineers across the University (<http://www.fbs.leeds.ac.uk/research/centres.php>) and indeed across the globe.

Our research areas include:

- Biomedical Engineering;
- Integrative membrane biology;
- Neuroscience;
- Ecology and Evolution;
- Cardiovascular, Sport and Exercise Sciences;
- Structural Molecular Biology;
- Plant Sciences.

We have recently invested >£20M in our research environment infrastructure and facilities. Staff of all research groups are now located within contiguous research space, the vast majority of which has been extensively refurbished. We have developed research facilities under the control of dedicated facility managers (<http://www.fbs.leeds.ac.uk/facilities/>). This has provided a state-of-the-art research environment, underpinned by managerial expertise, which maximises efficiency of use and cross-fertilisation of techniques.

Increased alignment of basic science with translational mechanisms has facilitated outputs with a wide range of impacts particularly on health, public policy, the environment, commerce and international development (<http://www.fbs.leeds.ac.uk/research/impact.php>).

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

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.

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 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.