UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Electron Microscopy, Faculty of Biological Sciences

Salary: Grade 7 (£41,064 - £48,822 p.a.)

Reference: FBSBM1221

Available on a fixed-term basis for 36 months (to complete specific time limited work).

This role will be based on the university campus.

We are open to discussing flexible working arrangements.

Research Fellow in Electron Microscopy, School of Biomedical Sciences

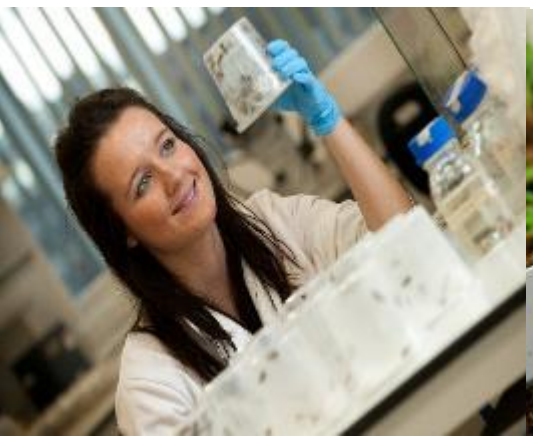
Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have an established background in Structural Biology, particularly Cryo-Electron Microscopy (cryo-EM)? Do you want to further your career in one of the UKs leading research-intensive Universities?

Based in the laboratories of Prof Stephen Muench and Dr Charlie Scarff at the Astbury Centre for Structural Molecular Biology, you will join a vibrant team working together on an exciting project deciphering the myosin mechanochemical cycle through time-resolved cryo-EM.

The project is funded for 3 years by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) and will involve developing time resolved cryo-EM to trap the molecular motor myosin in a series of different states to provide a step change in our understanding of how this machine functions. Elucidating the function is key to unlocking why certain mutations can cause disease such as early onset cardiac disease (through the muscle myosin protein) and how small molecules can modulate the function. Exceptional facilities and training are available in Leeds to support the project, including two Titan Krios electron microscopes equipped with the latest detectors.

You should have a PhD (or close to completion) in structural biology or a closely allied discipline, with experience in cryo-EM, as well as protein expression and purification.

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 has recevied a prestigous Silver award. 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.



Main duties and responsibilities

- Designing, planning and conducting a programme of investigation, in consultation with Professor Stephen Muench and Dr Charlie Scarff;
- Generating independent and original research ideas and methods in structural biology, especially around time-resolved cryo-EM, with an aim to extend the Muench and Scarff group research portfolios;
- Communicating research results and sharing plans with the supervisory team;
- 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.

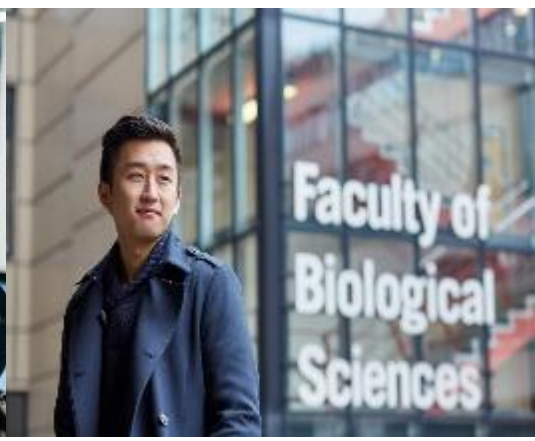
These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

Qualifications and skills

Essential

- A PhD (or close to completion) in structural biology or a closely allied discipline;
- Experience in cryo-EM, protein construct design, expression and purification from E. coli, insect cells and/or mammalian cells;
- The ability to design, execute and write up research independently;
- A developing track record of peer reviewed publications in international 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;





- A proven ability to work well both independently and as part of a team;
- Ability to work accurately and carefully;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

Desirable

- Experience in time-resolved methodologies;
- Experience in Myosin and related motor proteins.

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:

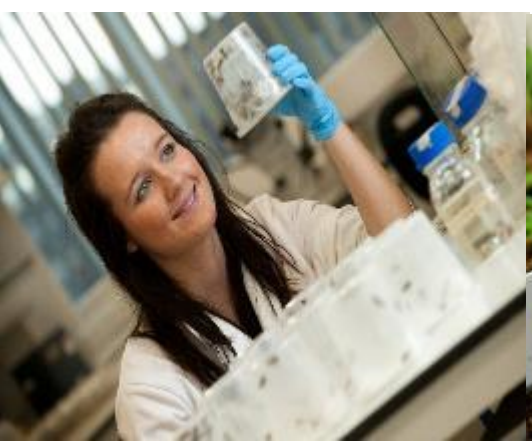
- A supporting statement providing evidence to support each requirement listed on the 'What will you bring to the role' section of the Candidate Brief (no more than two sides of A4, minimum font size 11);
- An academic curriculum vitae, including a list of your publications.

Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

Prof. Stephen Muench
Email: s.p.muench@leeds.ac.uk

Dr Charlie Scarff
Email: C.A.Scarff@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

At the University of Leeds, we are committed to providing a culture of inclusion, respect and equity of opportunity that attracts, supports, and retains the best students and staff from all backgrounds and from across the world. Whatever role we recruit for we are always striving to increase the diversity of our community, which each individual helps enrich and cultivate. We particularly encourage applications from, but not limited to Black, Asian, people who belong to a minority ethnic community; people who identify as LGBT+; and disabled people. Candidates will always be selected based on merit and ability.

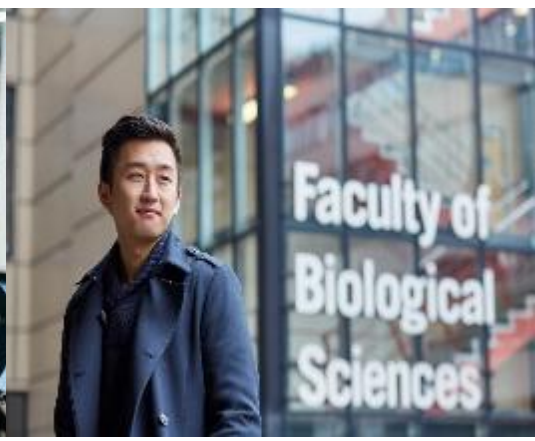
Working at Leeds
We are a campus-based community and regular interaction with campus is an expectation of all roles in line with academic and service needs and the requirements of the role. We are also open to discussing flexible working arrangements. To find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area visit our Working at Leeds information page.

Information for disabled candidates
Information for disabled candidates, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found under the 'Accessibility' heading on our How to Apply information page or by getting in touch by emailing HR via hr@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.

Salary Requirements of the Skilled Worker Visa Route

Please note that this post may be suitable for sponsorship under the Skilled Worker visa route but first-time applicants might need to qualify for salary concessions. For more information please visit: www.gov.uk/skilled-worker-visa.

For research and academic posts, we will consider eligibility under the Global Talent visa. For more information please visit: https://www.gov.uk/global-talent.

> *Please note: If you are not a British or Irish citizen, you will require permission to work in the UK. This will normally be in the form of a visa but, if you are an EEA/Swiss citizen, this may be your status under the EU Settlement Scheme.*