



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Cell, Structural and Molecular Biology, Faculty of Biological Sciences



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

Reference: FBSMB1307

Available on a fixed-term basis for 2 years (to complete specific time limited work)

This role will be based on the university campus. We are open to discussing flexible working

Research Fellow in Cell, Structural and Molecular Biology

School of Molecular and Cellular Biology

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

You will join a small team of two researchers, three PhD students and a technician, working in a laboratory focussed on the structure and function of myosins and the muscle cytoskeleton. We use a combination of approaches from light to electron microscopy, including CryoEM to solve structures, and super-resolution imaging using Affimers, to understand how proteins assemble into complex structures such as Z-discs and how myosin activity and regulation is important for cell behaviour in health and disease. We are developing correlative CryoEM tomography to visualise the cytoskeleton, including myosins, inside cells, and are looking for a new researcher to join the team to help us develop this, building on recent developments in ABSL <https://astbury.leeds.ac.uk/facilities/>, including the implementation of a BioHydra FIB-SEM and a new Cryo Confocal (on the way).

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 received a prestigious 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 Michelle Peckham](#);
- Generating independent and original research ideas and methods in the structure and function of cytoskeletal proteins with an aim to extend the molecular motors group research portfolio;
- 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 cell, molecular and/or structural biology or a closely allied discipline;
- Experience in tissue culture, expression and purification of proteins, light and electron microscopy, structural biology approaches such as CryoEM, single particle image processing and/or CryoET.
- 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 super-resolution microscopy, such as dSTORM, correlative light and electron microscopy, cytoskeletal research and/or research into muscle structure;
- 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 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:

[Michelle Peckham](#), Professor of Cell Biology

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 4348

Email: m.peckham@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Find out more about the [Faculty of Biological Sciences](#) and the [School of Molecular and Cellular Biology](#)



As an international research-intensive university, we welcome students and staff from all walks of life and from across the world. We foster an inclusive environment where all can flourish and prosper, and we are proud of our strong commitment to student education. Within the School of Biomedical Sciences we are dedicated to diversifying our community and we welcome the unique contributions that individuals can bring, and particularly encourage applications from, but not limited to Black, Asian, those 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.

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.

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 [the Government's Skilled Worker visa page](#).



For research and academic posts, we will consider eligibility under the Global Talent visa. For more information, please visit [the Government's page, Apply for the Global Talent visa](#).

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.

