



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Associate Professor in Motor Control, Faculty of Biological Sciences



Salary: Grade 9 (£61,759 - £73,708 p.a.)

Reference: FBSBM1225

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

Interviews are expected to take place during week commencing 12 January 2026.

Associate Professor in Motor Control

School of Biomedical Sciences

Are you an experienced and influential academic with the proven ability to carry out teaching and research in Motor Control and related topics? Do you have an excellent research track record, proven success obtaining funding and the vision and drive to tackle new challenges? Are you passionate about delivering world leading research and an exceptional student experience?

As Associate Professor, you will carry out research, teaching and management within the School, Faculty and University and contribute to academic leadership in the field of Biomedical Sciences with specific emphasis on Motor Control.

We are seeking an exceptional Associate Professor to join the School of Biomedical Sciences (SBMS) at the University of Leeds. As a senior academic you will provide academic leadership in research and teaching, helping to shape the future of our research portfolio and inspiring the next generation of scientists.

You will become part of a vibrant, supportive, and highly collaborative [Cardiovascular and Exercise Sciences](#) research pillar comprising research expertise in motor control, biomechanics, exercise physiology, computational modelling and exercise and health psychology. The Motor Control group has a renowned international reputation for its research in neural control of movement, motor learning, plasticity and rehabilitation, and sensorimotor integration across the life course. Research spans fundamental science through to translational application, investigating the behavioural and neural mechanisms of motor function in healthy ageing and various clinical conditions, in addition to developing innovative approaches to enhance recovery and rehabilitation.

We welcome applications from candidates whose research complements and extends our current portfolio. You will bring an outstanding record of internationally excellent publications, success in securing competitive research funding, and evidence of delivering impact. You will also contribute to teaching innovation, supervise and develop postgraduate researchers, and provide mentorship to colleagues.

This role offers an exciting opportunity to shape the future of the school, influence global scientific leaders, and deliver research with international reach and impact.



Main duties and responsibilities

- Pursuing, leading and developing the strategic direction of research, innovation and impact at an appropriately benchmarked level, attracting research income on an individual and collaborative basis to underpin high quality research activity and programmes/projects;
- Being recognised as an authority in your field, developing and maintaining an external profile as appropriate to the discipline;
- Maintaining a high-quality record of regular and original research publications that are of nationally and internationally standing;
- Promoting the integration of your own research area with other research interests within and, as appropriate, outside the School, Faculty and University;
- Providing high quality postgraduate supervision and attracting research students to the University, and to supervise other students as appropriate;
- Undertaking research-led teaching at different levels on undergraduate and/or postgraduate taught courses, regularly collecting, and responding to, student feedback as well as being involved in the assessment of course work and examinations;
- Playing a significant role in the design, development, planning and review of modules and programmes within the subject area as required;
- Contributing to the management and administrative processes and committee structures of the School, Faculty and University;
- Managing or leading major initiatives or areas of work (as either sustained or one-off projects) as well as taking on leadership roles which facilitate School, Faculty or University performance or business as required.

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

Qualifications and skills

Essential

- A PhD in Motor Control or closely aligned area (e.g. Sport and Exercise Sciences, Neuroscience);
- An international reputation, including a sustained track record of raising research funds from national and international funding agencies;
- A sustained track record of research outputs as a single or main author of refereed publications of internationally excellent quality;



- Significant experience of teaching effectively at all levels within higher education, including module and programme design, review and development;
- Experience of supervising taught undergraduate or postgraduate students;
- Outstanding communication, team working, networking and profile-raising skills to operate effectively within the role; including experience of collaboration on cross-disciplinary projects;
- Proven ability to provide academic leadership, including managing resources and/or staff;
- Evidence of the ability to build trust to ensure engagement and commitment, and to treat staff fairly, with respect and dignity.

Desirable

- Experience of PhD supervision, acting as primary supervisor to successful doctoral graduates;
- Ability to build partnerships with industrial, professional, and public sector organisations on interdisciplinary collaboration, knowledge exchange and funding.

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:

Professor Elaine Martin
Interim Head of the School of Biomedical Sciences
Email: E.Martin@leeds.ac.uk

Professor Ronaldo Ichiyama
Professor of Neural Control of Movement
Email: R.M.Ichiyama@leeds.ac.uk

Professor Sarah Astill
Email: s.l.astill@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

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.

Find out more about the [Faculty of Biological Sciences](#).

Find out more about our [Research and associated facilities](#).

Find out more about our [Faculty initiatives](#).

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

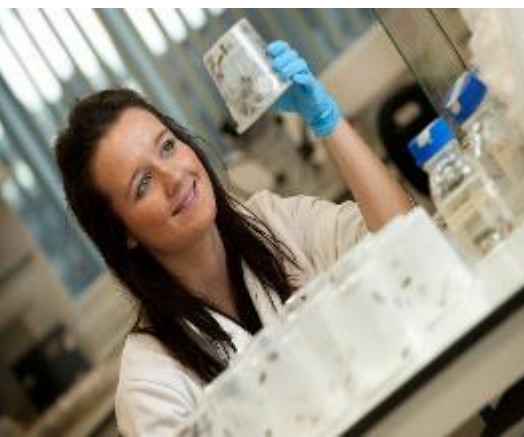
A criminal record check is not required for this position. However, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

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

Please note that this post may be suitable for sponsorship under the Skilled Worker visa route. 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.

