UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

# CANDIDATE BRIEF

## Research Fellow in the Synthesis of Novel Liquid Crystals, Faculty of Mathematics and Physical Sciences

**Salary: Grade 7 (£32,004 - £38,183 p.a., due to funding limitations an appointment will not be made above £32,958 p.a.)**

**Reference: MAPPA1041**

**Fixed-term for 3 years**

**Closing date: 25 April 2017**

# Research Fellow in the Synthesis of Novel Liquid Crystals School of Physics and Astronomy and School of Chemistry

**Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have an established background in Liquid Crystal research? Do you want to further your career in one of the UKs leading research intensive Universities?**

This is one of two posts to work on a multidisciplinary project aimed at the development the Liquid Crystal Droplets as Diagnostics for Bacterial Infection. The project is funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and is a collaboration between staff in the Faculty of Mathematical and Physical Sciences and the Faculty of Medicine and Health.

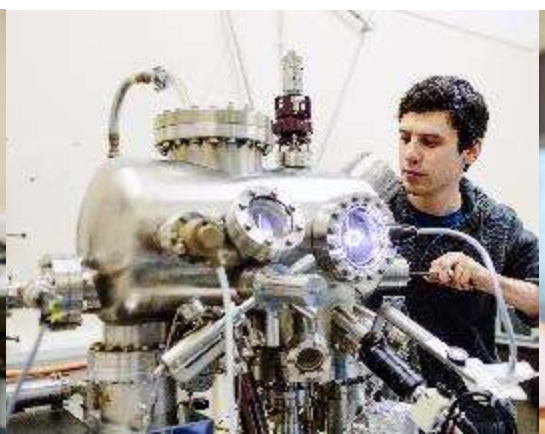
You will join a dynamic collaborative team led by Professor Helen Gleeson. You must have a PhD degree (or equivalent) in liquid crystal or phospholipid chemistry including experience of organic synthesis but also experience in the physical characterization of liquid crystal or phospholipid systems.

The post is available from 1 June 2017 and is held jointly between the School of Chemistry and School of Physics and Astronomy. It is of a collaborative project in liquid crystal based biosensors involving Chemistry, Physics and the Medical Faculty.

## What does the role entail?

As Research Fellow your main duties will include:

- Designing, planning and conducting a programme of investigation, in consultation with Professor Helen Gleeson and the project team;
- Generating independent and original research ideas and methods in liquid crystal research with an aim to extend the soft matter 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.

## What will you bring to the role?

As Research Fellow you will have:

- A PhD, or equivalent, in phospholipid science, liquid crystal science or a closely allied discipline;
- Significant experience of organic synthesis;
- Experience in compound characterisation, in particular liquid crystal characterisation using polarising microscopy;
- 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;
- The ability to work well both independently and as part of a team;
- The ability to work accurately and carefully;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

You may also have:

- The capability to interact with theorists and modellers working in related areas of physics and materials science;
- The ability to design apparatus and interact with technical staff to have it built;
- The ability to carry out numerical analysis and simulation of data;
- The ability to mentor and act as a role model for postgraduate researchers;



- Experience in optical simulations, particularly related to liquid crystalline materials;
- Evidence of perusing external funding to support research, such as grant success, fellowship, travel awards.

## 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.

## Contact information

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

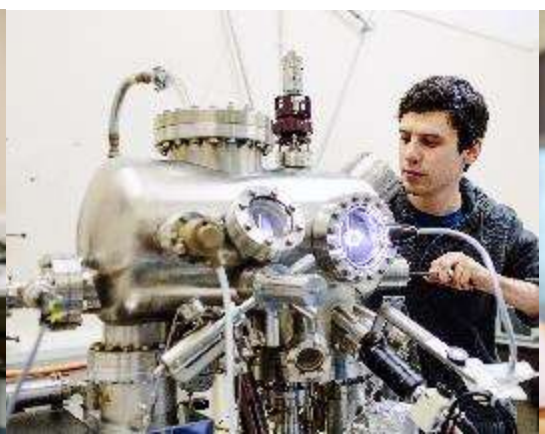
**Professor Helen Gleeson, Cavendish Professor of Physics**
Tel: +44 (0)113 343 3863
Email: h.f.gleeson@leeds.ac.uk

## Additional information

**A diverse workforce**
The Faculty of Mathematics and Physical Sciences is proud to have been awarded the Athena SWAN Bronze Award from the Equality Challenge Unit, the national body that promotes equality in the higher education sector. You can find out more on our equality and inclusion information page.

**Working at Leeds**
You can find out more about our generous benefits package and more about what it is like to work at the University and live in the Leeds area in 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 in 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 made in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our Criminal Records information page.