

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Fellow in Parasitology
School/Department:	School of Biological Sciences
Reference:	20/108261
Closing Date:	Wednesday 29 July 2020
Salary:	£33,797 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Tuesday 11 August 2020
Duration:	Available from 1 October 2020 until 31 March 2023

JOB PURPOSE:

To be an active member of the School of Biological Sciences, by assisting in the development of research proposals and the planning and delivery of research activity within the Microbes and Pathogen Biology Cluster, specifically in Parasitology.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Undertake project-specific research activities such as development of study protocols, performing recombinant protein expression development, routine sample preparation and liaising with UK and overseas research partners in China and Tanzania.
2. Develop and plan an area of personal research and expertise, and/or undertake research under supervision within a specific research project or as a member of a research team.
3. Design, develop and refine experimental methodologies in order to obtain reliable data.
4. Carry out analyses, critical evaluations, and interpretations using methodologies and other techniques appropriate to the area of research.
5. Present regular progress reports on research to members of the research group or to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
6. Prepare, in consultation with supervisors, material for publication in national and international journals and presentations at international conferences.
7. Assist grant holder in the preparation of funding proposals and applications to external bodies.
8. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research project/s to ensure that project/s are completed on time and within budget. These might include organisation of project meetings and documentation, financial control, risk assessment of research activities.
9. Carry out occasional undergraduate and postgraduate supervision, demonstrating or lecturing duties within the post holder's area of expertise and under the direct guidance of a member of academic staff.
10. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines.

Planning and Organising:

1. Plan for specific aspects of research programmes. Timescales range from 1-6 months in advance and contribute to research group planning.
2. Plan for the use of research resources, laboratories and workshops where appropriate.
3. Plan own day-to day activity within framework of the agreed research programme.
4. Plan up to a year in advance to meet deadlines for journal publications and to prepare presentations and papers for conferences.
5. Coordinate and liaise with other members of the research group over work progress.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Ensure research resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.
2. Provide guidance as required to support staff and any students who may be assisting with research.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Liaise on a regular basis with colleagues and students.
2. Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks for the exchange of information and to form relationships for future collaboration.
3. Join external networks to share information and ideas.
4. Contribute to the School's outreach programme by establishing links with local community groups, industries etc.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. BSc in Biochemistry/Molecular Biology, Biology or relevant life sciences subject.
2. Have or about to obtain a PhD in a relevant area of parasitology, molecular biology/biochemistry or similar.
3. At least 3 years recent relevant research experience to include developing parasitology (helminth) methods and in conducting sample analysis.
4. Practical experience in processing, recording and handling data, and performing statistical analysis.
5. Ability to contribute to broader management and administrative processes.
6. Methodical approach to project management and meticulous in regards to experimental procedures and record keeping.
7. Sufficient breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline and of research methods and techniques to work within established and developing research programmes.
8. Competent in giving effective and informative oral and poster presentations.
9. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
10. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
11. Strong ability to work from own initiative and to work independently within the context of a research team.
12. Commitment to high quality research.
13. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
14. Ability to assess and organise resources.
15. Irregular hours including evening, weekend and other out-of-hours work may be a component of the research at times.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Experience of handling, processing and analysing large animal samples/specimens.
2. Experience of conducting proteomic analysis and/or recombinant protein expression.
3. Specialist knowledge in helminth biology and field work, especially in LMICs.
4. Contribute to the School's outreach programme by links with industry, community groups etc.
5. Evidence of having presented their research at conferences (poster and/or oral presentations).
6. Willing to travel to national and international meetings and collaborative laboratories as required on an ad-hoc basis.