Candidate Information

Position: Research Fellow
School/Department: Patrick G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research
Reference: 20/108385
Closing Date: Wednesday 11 November 2020
Salary: £33,797 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date: Wednesday 25 November 2020
Duration: This is a fixed-term position until 31 December 2022

JOB PURPOSE:

A postdoctoral position within a US-Ireland Tripartite scheme funded programme led by Prof Dan Longley to investigate the efficacy of apoptosis-targeting therapeutics in advanced disease models of colorectal cancer. Specifically, this project will focus on identifying the responsive tumour models and optimal combination partners for these novel agents.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. To design, develop and execute studies related to the project under the supervision of Prof. Dan Longley in order to obtain reliable data, then evaluate and interpret the results using methodologies and techniques appropriate to the area of the research.
2. Generate and maintain in vitro and in vivo colorectal cancer models.
3. To regularly present results to the research group as part of routine peer review.
4. Initiate and maintain collaborative links with project partners.
5. To write up results in a timely manner and take a leadership role in writing research manuscripts.
6. To present regular progress reports on research to members of the research group and to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
7. To formulate, write and submit grants for fellowship awards, project and travel support.
8. To attend and present new experimental data at national and international meetings.
9. Assist grant holder in the preparation of funding proposals and applications to external bodies.
10. May be required to carry out undergraduate supervision within the post holder's area of expertise and under the guidance of a member of academic staff.
11. Assist with the supervision of postgraduate students or summer students on mini-projects, which will help develop their own supervisory skills.
12. 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.
13. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines.
14. Any other reasonable duties within the general ambit of the post.

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.
3. Take shared responsibility for the upkeep of lab equipment and replenishment of lab stocks and exercise due diligence when using equipment.
4. Support the development and training of support staff and students.

Internal and External Relationships:
1. Communicate openly with lab colleagues the latest research findings/results.
2. Develop contacts with other labs within the research community at Queen's and look to identify potential cross-discipline collaborations.
3. Liaise on a regular basis with colleagues from internal/external collaborations.
4. Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks for the exchange of information and to form relationships for future collaboration.
5. Join external networks to share information and ideas.
6. Contribute to the School's outreach programme by establishing links with local community groups, industries etc
7. Join national and international scientifically relevant societies.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:
1. Have or be about to obtain a PhD in cancer biology, molecular biology or a related discipline.
2. At least three years relevant research experience with publication record commensurate with experience.
3. Personal Licence holder and experience in working with transplant and GEMM models.
4. Experienced in ex-vivo/post-mortem analyses, such as tissue processing/pathology, IHC/IF, and image analysis.
5. Experienced in a range of molecular and cellular biology techniques (such as PCR, Western blot, ELISA).
6. Ability to contribute to broader management and administrative processes.
7. Contribute to the School's outreach programme by links with industry, patient advocacy groups etc.
8. Sufficient breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline and of research methods and techniques to work within established research programmes.
9. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
10. Ability to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks.
11. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
12. Ability to assess and organise resources.
13. Team worker, highly motivated, supportive of junior colleagues within the group.
14. Interest in driving focussed research programme.
15. Must be willing to work irregular hours when necessary for the progress of the research project.
16. Must be willing to work with in vivo models of cancer following the guidelines of the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986.
17. Must be prepared to travel for technical training as appropriate to collaborators within the UK.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:
1. 1st Class undergraduate degree in biochemistry, or related discipline .
2. Scientific memberships eg. AACR, EACR.
3. Evidence of GEMM colony management proficiency to include breeding strategies and genotyping methods.
4. Competent in SubQ, IP, IV, OG delivery techniques.
5. Experience in organoid culture.
6. Experience in in vivo imaging systems such as Bruker/IVIS.
7. Experienced in high parameter flow cytometry tissue profiling and data analysis.
8. Experience in bioinformatic analysis platforms such as R and Partek.
9. Evidence of involvement in successful programmes and grant applications.
10. Presentations at national/international meetings.