

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Fellow, Web Based Database Design
School/Department:	Centre for Public Health
Reference:	20/108433
Closing Date:	Monday 30 November 2020
Salary:	£33,797 - £38,017 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Friday 11 December 2020
Duration:	This post is available until 31 August 2021

JOB PURPOSE:

This full-time post involves working with a multi-disciplinary team as part of a collaborative project entitled "Discovery of an integrated risk profile for chronic kidney disease and development of a clinical biomarker panel for personalising medicine".

The overall aim of this international research project is to explore biomarkers associated with kidney disease. This postholder will help develop a kidney biobank research database that users can query through a customised website associated with this research project (<https://www.qub.ac.uk/sites/RenGenPECT/>). RenGenPECT is being developed as a resource to host integrated molecular, environmental, clinical and sociodemographic data for kidney disease. This resource aims to collate and share validated, carefully curated, integrated RENal, GENetic, Proteomic, Epigenetic, Clinical, and Transcriptomic data that will facilitate future international research initiatives.

The post may involve liaising with international collaborators, collating existing data, coordinating meetings, analysis of data, integrating datasets, preparing

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. To assist in developing a detailed project plan to meet research objectives in accordance with best practice.
2. To summarise relevant data harmonisation requirements and ensure collated data is compliant with ethical and governance requirements.
3. To develop and maintain a MySQL research database within QUB's existing infrastructure, including facilitating web-based user queries.
4. To monitor and improve database resilience, performance and capacity; to advise on planning for future expansion requirements.
5. To help develop the RenGenPECT website and connected systems.
6. To develop and maintain relevant documentation associated with developing and running this RenGenPECT resource e.g. system specifications, recovery plans, user documentation, and associated software.
7. To generate original ideas and innovative solutions through the provision of specialist know-how and advice.
8. To work with colleagues to conduct analysis of multi-omic datasets with a focus on kidney disease.
9. To keep abreast of the research field and relevant developments.
10. To prepare regular summary reports for the project team and communication to stakeholders.
11. To prepare, in consultation with the project team, material for publication in national and international journals, and presentations at national and international conferences.
12. To assist with the submission of associated grant applications and the supervision of students.
13. To assist with preparation of relevant ethical and research governance documents.
14. To carry out routine administrative tasks associated with this research project to ensure the project is completed on time and within budget.

Planning and Organising:

1. To draw up a Gantt chart and plan for specific deliverables of the research project's scientific outputs.

2. To plan for the use of research resources and workshops where appropriate.
3. To plan own day-to-day activity within framework of the agreed research programme, particularly in relation to collaborative work with project partners and other components of the wider large-scale project.
4. To plan to meet deadlines for journal publications, project meetings, and to prepare presentations and papers for conferences.
5. Coordinate and liaise with other members of the research group and project team regarding progress.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. To ensure research resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.
2. To advise on the cost/benefit of new and existing technologies.
3. To provide support and guidance as required to staff and students assisting with the research.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. To liaise on a regular basis with colleagues, students and key stakeholders.
2. To maintain existing and establish new internal contacts and participate in internal networks for the exchange of information and to form relationships for future collaboration.
3. To maintain existing and establish new external networks to share information and ideas.
4. To contribute to the School's outreach programme by maintaining existing and establishing new links with local community groups.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or be about to obtain a PhD in a relevant subject.
2. At least 3 years' experience relevant to this project.
3. Experience working with MySQL to develop database structure, incorporate data content, and provide interactive search facilities.
4. Experience of project management, delivering outcomes, and proven ability to work in a multi-disciplinary environment as part of a team.
5. Experience producing documentation for a range of stakeholders e.g. status reports, operational procedures, and / or research outputs.
6. Demonstrated commitment to adhering to agreed standards and procedures.
7. Excellent IT skills e.g. Microsoft Office suite.
8. Excellent organisational and leadership skills.
9. Excellent inter-personal skills.
10. Excellent oral and written communication skills.
11. Evidence of ability to write reports and meet deadlines.
12. Evidence of ability to deal competently with administrative tasks and contribute to broader management tasks.
13. Clear and confident communicator.
14. Ability to give formal presentations.
15. Ability to work independently and on own initiative.
16. Ability to act decisively and confidently.
17. Access to transport or ability to meet the mobility requirements and willingness to travel to meet the needs of the post.
18. Ability to work outside normal hours when necessary.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. First or Upper Second Class Honours Degree in a relevant discipline, a Master's degree, a PhD and / or relevant professional qualification with a significant Information Technology / Computing element.
2. Experience working with relevant international data protection guidelines and requirements.
3. Experience working with programming languages such as PHP or Perl to develop applications.
4. Experience working with a content management system to develop and / or maintain a website.
5. Experience leading or contributing to the development of procedures.
6. Experience analysing and recommending best practices / approaches.
7. Proven ability demonstrate ownership and accountability of tasks.
8. Evidence of having co-ordinated a project to successful completion.
9. Demonstrated ability to share technical experience and knowledge with team members.