

Job Description

Job title	Research Fellow
Department	Life Sciences
Grade	FA6

Job purpose (a brief summary of the role)	Undertake research in order to support the work of the Lehtovirta-Morley Research Group and the School of Life Sciences in order to develop and enhance its reputation, both internally and externally. Assist the Project Leader and, where appropriate, project collaborators in the successful execution of the project.
Duties and responsibilities	RESEARCH • Help establish a sound research base within the department in order to assist the development of research objectives and proposals for own or joint research. • Conduct individual and collaborative research projects. • To publish research outcomes in appropriate journals of international standing and to publish and disseminate the result of research to other reputable outlets. • Translate knowledge of advances in the subject area of microbiology into research activity. • May contribute to preparing proposals and applications to external bodies, e.g. for funding and contractual purposes, to support a developing research agenda. • May present information on research progress and outcomes to bodies supervising research, e.g. steering groups. • May contribute to the preparation of papers for steering groups and other bodies. • Communicate complex information (orally and in writing) and material of a specialist or highly technical nature. • Continually update own knowledge and understanding environmental microbiology. TEACHING AND LEARNING SUPPORT • Could be expected to contribute to the teaching and learning programmes in the department. • Assist in the supervision of student projects and the development of student research skills. • May be involved in the assessment of student knowledge and supervision of projects. ADMINISTRATION AND OTHER ACTIVITIES • May be required to attend departmental meetings and to participate (where necessary) in other committees and working groups within the department, the faculty and the University. • Ensure compliance with health and safety in all aspects of work. • Work within budget constraints. The duties and responsibilities outlined are not intended to be an exhaustive list but provide guidance on the main aspects of the job. You will be required to be flexible in your duties.

Person Specification

The Person Specification focuses on the essential and desirable knowledge, skills, experience and qualifications required to undertake the role effectively. This is measured by (a) Application Form, (b) Test/Exercise, (c) Interview, (d) Presentation.

Essential Criterion No.	Essential Criterion Description	Measured by
E1	Good honours degree and possession of a PhD or equivalent in Microbiology or related discipline.	A & C
E2	Proficiency in environmental microbiology.	A & C
E3	A developing research profile with the ability to publish and/or produce high-quality research output.	A & C
E4	Breadth or depth of specialist knowledge/expertise in the physiology and metabolism of ammonia oxidising and heterotrophic microorganisms, and of research methods and techniques, including cultivation of ammonia oxidising and heterotrophic microorganisms, gas chromatography and molecular techniques (DNA extraction, qPCR) to work within established research programmes.	A & C
E5	Effective communication skills (oral and written), including the ability to articulate and present research results to an audience; promptly communicating with the line manager, other lab users and team members, research facilities and suppliers to resolve any issues that arise.	A & C
E6	Ability to work independently and/or as part of a team on research programmes.	A & C
E7	Evidence of research ability/experience and quality research output in microbiology including experience gained during PhD studies and post PhD qualification (where appropriate).	A & C
E8	Ability to be punctual, follow the work pattern, effectively manage time and meet deadlines.	A & C

Desirable Criterion No.	Desirable Criterion Description	Measured by
D1	Expertise in molecular microbiology including RNA-based techniques, analysis of sequencing datasets, proteomics and isotope tracing.	A & C
D2	Evidence of publications submitted to relevant journals in environmental microbiology.	A & C
D3	Evidence of supervision experience or willingness to supervise projects.	A & C