

CORE JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Research Fellow in Molecular Mechanisms of eukaryotic transcription
Grade:	Research Fellow , Grade 7.0-7.4
School:	Life Sciences
Location:	JMS building
Responsible to:	Principal Investigator through to Head of School
Direct reports:	n/a
Key contacts:	Members of research group, members of faculty within the School and University.
Role description:	Research Fellow is an early career-grade research position. Post-holders will be expected to contribute to the work of the research team, and also to develop their research skills with support from more experienced members of staff.

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. To engage in individual and/or collaborative research activity resulting in high-quality publications; and to develop research funding and knowledge exchange income individually or in collaboration with others, as appropriate, depending on the size and scope of the bid.
2. To contribute to School teaching activities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Research, Scholarship & Enterprise

- 1.1 Develop research objectives and proposals for own or joint research, at acceptable levels, with assistance if required.
- 1.2 Conduct research projects individually and in collaboration with others.
- 1.3 Analyse and interpret research findings and draw conclusions on the outcomes.
- 1.4 Produce high-quality research outputs for publication in monographs or recognised high-quality journals, or performance/exhibition, as appropriate, and contribute to the School's REF submission at acceptable levels of volume and academic excellence.
- 1.5 Contribute to the preparation of proposals and applications to external bodies, for example for funding purposes.
- 1.6 Individually or with colleagues, explore opportunities for enterprise activity, knowledge exchange income and/or consultancy, where permissible.
- 1.7 Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks and relevant external networks in order to form relationships and collaborations.
- 1.8 Continually update knowledge and understanding in the field, and engage in continuous professional development.

2. Teaching & Student Support

- 2.1 Undertake teaching duties, if required.
- 2.2 Assist in the assessment of student knowledge and supervision of student projects if required.
- 2.3 Assist in the development of student research skills, for example as part of a postgraduate supervision team.

3. Contribution to School & University

- 3.1 Attend and contribute to relevant School and project meetings.
- 3.2 Undertake additional duties, as required by the Principal Investigator and/or Head of School.

4. Role-specific duties

We are seeking to appoint a Research Fellow in Molecular Mechanisms of eukaryotic transcription to investigate the role of phosphorylation in RNA polymerase II transcription, RNA processing and ultimately in gene expression. Our multi-dimensional research programme integrates biochemical, structural, cellular and large-scale genetic/genomic approaches.

The appointed fellow will:

- 4.1 Manage own academic research and administrative activities. This involves small scale project management, to co-ordinate multiple aspects of work to meet deadlines.
- 4.2 Adapt existing and develop new scientific techniques and experimental protocols.
- 4.3 Test hypotheses and analyse scientific data from a variety of sources, reviewing and refining working hypotheses as appropriate.

This Job Description sets out current duties of the post that may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the post or level of responsibility entailed.

INDICATIVE PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- A PhD or equivalent scholarly or relevant professional activity
- Pursuing a line of independent research within a research group.
- Publishing and presenting research (either from a recently completed PhD or new original research).
- Other forms of externally recognised professional practice or creative output of a standing equivalent to regular publication of original research.
- Excellent communication skills, including the ability to write for publication
- Initiating, developing or participating in links between the University and external bodies such as business and industry, the professions, community organisations and policy-makers.
- Evidence of successful engagement in teaching or supervision.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

1. Normally educated to doctoral level, or other equivalent qualification, or appropriate level of experience, as appropriate to the discipline (see role-specific criteria below).
2. Evidence of engagement in high-quality research activity and ability to manage own academic research and associated activities.
3. Excellent presentation skills, with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.
4. Possess sufficient specialist knowledge in the discipline to work within established research programmes.
5. Previous experience of contributing to publications/presentations.
6. Ability to work individually on own initiative and without close supervision, and as part of a team.
7. Ability to exercise a degree of innovation and creative problem-solving.
8. Excellent organisational and administrative skills.
9. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.
10. Excellent IT skills.

ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

1. Experience in undertaking genome-wide analyses (for example RNA -seq, TT-seq, , Pro-seq , ChIP-seq), coding and bioinformatic analysis of the data.
2. Experience in Maintaining mammalian cell culture and generating degron-tagged cell lines.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Experience in performing biochemical experiments, recombinantly express and purify proteins as well as purifying native complexes to test hypothesis in vitro