Role profile

Job title | Research Associate/Fellow | Job family and level | Research and Teaching Level 4 (Appointment will be Level 4 Career training grade where an appointment is made before PhD has been completed)
---|---|---|---
School/Department | Life Sciences | Location | University Park

Purpose of role
The purpose of this role will be to have specific responsibility for research, for developing research objectives and proposals for a research project focused on developing novel animal free testing platform to investigate the bio/immune compatibility of new chemicals and biomaterials including the foreign body response (FBR) to biomaterials. The project will be dedicated to developing immune-competent tissue models using 3D culture systems and microfluidic platforms. The person appointed will be expected to plan and conduct work using approaches, methodologies and techniques appropriate to the type of research, and will be responsible for writing up their work for publication. Given the collaborative nature of the project the person appointed will be expected to interact with other collaborators including international collaborators.

The person appointed will have the opportunity to use their initiative and creativity to identify areas for research, develop research methods and extend their research portfolio.

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<tr>
<th>Main responsibilities</th>
<th>% time per year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>To plan and conduct research using recognised approaches, methodologies and techniques within the research area.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>To analyse and illuminate data, interpret reports, evaluate and criticise texts and bring new insights to research area.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>To write up research work for publication and/or contribute to the dissemination at national/international conferences, resulting in successful research outputs.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>To supervise undergraduate and/or postgraduate students projects, fieldwork and placements, as appropriate. To participate in the assessment of student knowledge and co-supervise projects at Masters level.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>To plan and manage own research activity and resolve problems, if required, in meeting own/team research objectives and deadlines in collaboration with others.</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>To identify opportunities and assist in writing bids for research grant applications. Prepare proposals and applications to both external and/or internal bodies for funding, contractual or accreditation purposes.</td>
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## Person specification

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<tr>
<th>Skills</th>
<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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| ▪ Excellent information technology and computing skills  
  ▪ Careful experimentalist with high level data processing capabilities.  
  ▪ A strong commitment to interdisciplinary research  
  ▪ Excellent oral and written communication skills, including the ability to communicate with clarity on complex information.  
  ▪ High analytical ability to analyse and illuminate data, interprets reports, evaluate and criticise texts and bring new insights.  
  ▪ Ability to creatively apply relevant research approaches, models, techniques and methods.  
  ▪ Ability to assess and organise resource requirements and deploy effectively.  
  ▪ Ability to build relationships and collaborate with others, both internally and externally. | ▪ Experience of working with liver, lung and/or skin models  
 ▪ Experience of working with immune cells  
 ▪ Experience with immunochemical analysis.  
 ▪ Experience in flow cytometry  
 ▪ Experience in microscopy  
 ▪ Ability to foster a research culture and commitment to learn in others. |

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<th>Knowledge and experience</th>
<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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| ▪ Working with microfluidic and organ-on-chip devices  
  ▪ Experience of developing complex cell culture systems  
  ▪ Experience in use of research methodologies and techniques to work within area.  
  ▪ Experience of mammalian-derived cell culture and working with immune cells. | ▪ Strong publication track record in relevant areas.  
 ▪ Experience of developing new approaches, models, techniques or methods in research area. |

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<tr>
<th>Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)</th>
<th>Essential</th>
<th>Desirable</th>
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| ▪ A first degree in Biology, Chemistry, Materials, Pharmacy, Engineering, or related discipline  
  ▪ PhD or equivalent in relevant subject area or the equivalent in professional qualifications and experience in research area.  
  ▪ OR near to completion of a PhD | | |
Expectations and behaviours

The University has developed a clear set of core expectations and behaviours that our people should be demonstrating in their work, and as ambassadors of the University's strategy, vision and values. The following are essential to the role:

**Valuing people**
Is friendly, engaging and receptive, putting others at ease. Actively listens to others and goes out of way to ensure people feel valued, developed and supported.

**Taking ownership**
Is clear on what needs to be done encouraging others to take ownership. Takes action when required, being mindful of important aspects such as Health & Safety, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion, and other considerations.

**Forward thinking**
Drives the development, sharing and implementation of new ideas and improvements to support strategic objectives. Engages others in the improvement process.

**Professional pride**
Is professional in approach and style, setting an example to others; strives to demonstrate excellence through development of self, others and effective working practices.

**Always inclusive**
Builds effective working relationships, recognising and including the contribution of others; promotes inclusion and inclusive practices within own work area.

Key relationships with others

![Diagram showing relationships]

- **Line manager**
- **Role holder**
- **Key stakeholder relationships**
  - Students
  - Colleagues
  - Collaborators