



Job title	Research Associate/Fellow	Job family and level	Research and Teaching Level 4
School/ Department	Life Sciences	Location	Biodiscovery Institute

Purpose of role

The purpose of this role will be to have specific responsibility for carrying out fundamental and translational research and develop proposals for research projects within the National Biofilms Innovation Centre (NBIC) at Nottingham University. In particular, the person appointed will be expected to (i) interact with the researchers from NBIC at Nottingham and the other leading and partner institutions; (ii) interact in a professional manner with industrial partners in a highly multidisciplinary environment; (iii) work to very tight deadlines and manage multiple projects; (iv) Report regularly to industrial partners and members of NBIC both in the form of formal written reports and oral presentation; (v) support NBIC training activities and the supervision of postgraduate researchers and visitors within the centre; (vi) write scientific research papers to high standards and (vii) assist with the preparation of project proposals for industry and grant applications.

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.

	Main responsibilities (Primary accountabilities and responsibilities expected to fulfil the role)	% time per year
1	To develop research objectives and proposals for NBIC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To plan and conduct research using recognised approaches, methodologies and techniques within the biofilms research area. To analyse and illuminate data, interpret reports, evaluate and criticise texts and bring new insights to the biofilms research field which impact on basic science development and translational research demands. 	45%
3	To write up research work for publication and/or contribute to the dissemination at national/international conferences, resulting in successful research outputs for NBIC.	10%
4	To identify opportunities and assist in writing bids for research grant applications and research proposals for industrial collaborations. Prepare proposals and applications to both external/internal bodies and industry for funding, contractual or accreditation purposes.	10%
5	To build relationships with both internal and external contacts of NBIC including industrial and international partners in order to exchange information, to form relationships for future collaborations and identify potential sources of funds and/or opportunities for collaboration.	5%

6	To co-ordinate the operational aspect of research networks, for example, arranging meetings, contributing to websites updates, organising training activities and events etc and contribute to collaborative decision making with colleagues in the research areas of NBIC.	5%
7	To provide support, guidance and supervision to other staff and visitors, in own area of expertise.	5%
8	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 undergraduate and Masters level.	5%
9	To collaborate with academic colleagues on areas of shared interest for example, course development, collaborative or joint research projects relevant to NBIC.	5%
10	To plan and manage own research activity and resolve problems, if required, in meeting own/team research objectives and deadlines in collaboration with others.	5%
11	To utilise and contribute to organising research resources and facilities, laboratories and workshops as appropriate.	3%
12	To make a contribution to teaching within the NBIC framework, for example through laboratory demonstrations or lectures to postgraduate workshops.	2%

Person specification

	Essential	Desirable
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Extensive experience in the growth of a range of biofilm models that include the bacteria <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> or <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> and incorporating fungi including <i>Candida albicans</i> ▪ Extensive experience in co-culture to create stable polymicrobial biofilms ▪ Extensive experience in advanced microscopy, including fluorescence. ▪ Extensive experience in RNAseq preparation and analysis ▪ Extensive experience in quantification of antimicrobial sensitivity. ▪ Experience in molecular manipulation of bacteria including the construction of transcriptional and translational fusions and mutagenesis ▪ Experience in diverse data handling including statistical analysis. ▪ Excellent oral and written communication skills, including the ability to communicate with clarity complex information. ▪ Ability to build relationships and collaborate with others, internally and externally. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Experience in virulence factor bioassays in <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>. ▪ Writing risk assessments and SOPs ▪ Bioinformatic analysis of whole genomes. ▪ Ability to foster a research culture and commitment to learn in others.
Knowledge and experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evidence of sufficient breadth or depth of research methodologies and techniques to work in research area. ▪ Practical experience of applying the specialist skills approaches and techniques required for the role. ▪ Evidence of using research methodologies and techniques to work within research area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Experience in biochemistry and analytical chemistry ▪ Experience in fostering external collaborations.
Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PhD in Microbiology (or close to completion) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSc in Microbiology, Microbial Genetics Biochemistry or Biology.

Statutory, legal or special requirements		
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The University of Nottingham is focused on embedding equality, diversity and inclusion in all that we do. As part of this, we welcome a diverse population to join our work force and therefore encourage applicants from all communities, particularly those with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.



The University is a signatory of the Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA). As such we commit to focus on the scientific content of publications (where requested or provided as part of the recruitment and selection process) as a basis for review of quality, and consideration of value and impact of research conducted, rather than any proxy measures such as Journal Impact Factor.

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



