



University of Leeds  
Leeds LS2 9JT  
Switchboard: +44 (0) 113 243 1751  
Direct line: +44 (0) 113 343 5775

avsdjb1 2/2/12 11:58 AM

Deleted: .

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

**JOB REF: FBSMS0022**

**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**  
**Faculty of Biological Sciences**  
**Institute of Membrane and Systems Biology**  
**CHAIR IN SPORTS AND EXERCISE SCIENCE**

**1. CONTEXT AND SUMMARY**

- 1.1. This is a major strategic investment by the University to achieve an ambitious improvement in academic performance and enhanced student experience.
- 1.2. It is anticipated that the post holder will be a research leader, able to work across different aspects of the Sport and Exercise Sciences research at the University and play a significant role in maximising the opportunities offered by multi-disciplinary research. Our research uses contemporary systems-integrative perspective to investigate exercise responses, control mechanisms and exercise adherence. Application and translation spans elite athletes, the elderly and children, as well as patients with chronic heart, cancer and lung disease, spinal cord injuries, and motor impairments. The group incorporates both multi- and inter-disciplinary research aimed at improving the understanding of the relationship between physical activity patterns, health and the predisposition to chronic diseases. (<http://www.fbs.leeds.ac.uk/research/groups/cSES/index.php>)

The post holder will be located in the Faculty of Biological Sciences, reporting to the Director of the Institute of Membrane and Systems Biology. In this faculty research in sport and exercise sciences principally consists of exercise physiology, exercise psychology, motor control and biomechanics.

- 1.3. The person appointed will:

- 1.3.1. deliver top quality research outputs that contribute to impact and innovation;
- 1.3.2. generate significant competitive external research grant income;
- 1.3.3. deliver research-led education that contributes to an exceptional student experience;
- 1.3.4. expect to take on a significant leadership role in the organisation of research and education.

## **2. MAIN POSTHOLDER RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 2.1. Undertake internationally leading research and inspirational teaching, taking a leadership role in translating excellence in research and scholarship into learning opportunities for students.
- 2.2. Profess and promote the discipline of Sports & Exercise Sciences nationally and internationally, winning prestige for both the discipline and the University.
- 2.3. Provide a major contribution to the strategic academic development, direction and leadership of the School, Faculty and University.
- 2.4. Promote and help to deliver excellence in research and student education for the School and the highest standards of student experience.
- 2.5. Support and mentor less experienced academic and research staff to promote career development and the nurturing of academic talent.

## **3. RESPONSIBILITIES – STUDENT EDUCATION**

- 3.1. Inspire students through research-led teaching on undergraduate and postgraduate taught courses, achieving high standards of student feedback.
- 3.2. Provide a leading contribution to School and, as appropriate, Faculty policy and practice in teaching, promoting world class education and an exceptional student experience.
- 3.3. Take a lead role in the design, development and planning of modules and programmes.
- 3.4. Take a lead role in the review of modules and programmes and in quality assurance and enhancement processes within the subject area.
- 3.5. Develop innovative approaches to learning and teaching.
- 3.6. Provide high quality student support, acting as a personal tutor, supporting involvement in *Leeds for Life*, and working with students as members of a learning community to sustain 'The Partnership'.

## **4. RESPONSIBILITIES - RESEARCH, INNOVATION & IMPACT**

- 4.1. Develop and lead excellent research, innovation and impact at national and international levels.
- 4.2. Establish and maintain a high quality record of research outputs in leading internationally-recognised publications.
- 4.3. Achieve sustained high levels of research funding individually and/or in collaboration with others and develop and maintain networks and promote links with Research Councils and external organisations.
- 4.4. Provide academic leadership and guidance to colleagues working within own research area and more widely across the School, Faculty and University, building research teams and promoting the development of a vibrant and sustainable research culture, community and environment in the School.
- 4.5. Attract high quality postgraduate research students to the University and provide them with excellent supervision which supports timely completion and subsequent employability.
- 4.6. Build and sustain relationships with external bodies to develop the School's innovation and impact agenda.
- 4.7. Promote the integration of research interests within the School, across the University and externally.

## **5. RESPONSIBILITIES - LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT**

- 5.1. Make a dynamic, ambitious, energetic contribution to the development and delivery of the School's academic mission.
- 5.2. Provide a major input to the strategic academic development and direction of the School and the Faculty and to the academic leadership of the discipline.
- 5.3. Make a significant contribution to the University through its governance structures and by representing the University externally.
- 5.4. Manage or lead major initiatives and/or multidisciplinary areas of work which improve School, Faculty or University performance.
- 5.5. Actively promote and engage with the University's People Management Framework (<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/hr/development/pmf.htm>) to ensure high standards of employment practices and staff management across the School.
- 5.6. Adhere to University values and standards, including the Leadership and Management Standard, and in line with University policies and procedures and local Faculty/School benchmarks as appropriate, upholding high professional standards and leading by example.
- 5.7. Exercise leadership in alignment with the University Leadership and Management Standard (<http://www.sddu.leeds.ac.uk/sddu-University-of-leeds-leadership-and-management-standard.html>), ensuring that appropriate staff training and development is identified and undertaken.
- 5.8. Sustain own continuing professional development as a leader.

- 5.9. Maintain a safe and healthy work environment, including ensuring compliance with health and safety legislation and the undertaking of appropriate risk assessments.
- 5.10. Comply with the University's financial and procurement procedures and regulations, undertaking relevant induction/training.

This job description provides a framework for the role and it may be necessary to undertake other duties commensurate with the post as might reasonably be required.

## **6. PERSON SPECIFICATION**

Candidates will be expected to demonstrate appropriate levels of experience and skill to enable them to achieve the requirements of the job description. The following skills and abilities are essential in this context:

- 6.1. Have a PhD or other doctorate in a relevant discipline or equivalent research experience.
- 6.2. Evidence understanding of the principles of research-led teaching and a track record of integrating research with learning and teaching to deliver an excellent student experience, and an ability to lead the development a portfolio of modules.
- 6.3. Demonstrate ability to provide academic leadership in research both by own work and through the encouragement and stimulation of colleagues.
- 6.4. Demonstrate a track record of sustained delivery of ambitious and imaginative academic leadership.
- 6.5. Evidence an excellent track record of research and publication meeting international standards of academic excellence, including a significant quantity of 3\* (internationally excellent) and 4\* (world-leading) REF equivalent published research (3\* and 4\* papers determine the level of UK government funding for research in the Faculty).
- 6.6. Show international links and evidence of effective engagement with and influencing national and international research agendas.
- 6.7. Demonstrate ability to work across subject areas, linking appropriately with other disciplines and research groups.
- 6.8. Demonstrate a track record of effective team working and collaborative development.
- 6.9. Evidence willingness and capacity to take on a significant role in Faculty/School development.
- 6.10. Demonstrate excellent organisational and communication skills.
- 6.11. Demonstrate ability to think laterally, to be imaginative and to anticipate trends and opportunities.

## **7. INFORMAL ENQUIRIES**

Preliminary enquiries about the post may be made to:

Professor Paul Millner  
Director, Institute of Membrane and Systems Biology  
Telephone: +44 (0)113 343 3149  
E-mail: [p.a.millner@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:p.a.millner@leeds.ac.uk)

or

Dr Andrea Utley  
Telephone: +44 (0) 113 343 35087  
E-mail: [a.utley@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:a.utley@leeds.ac.uk)

## 8. ATTACHMENTS AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### About the Faculty and its Mission and Strategy

The **Faculty of Biological Sciences** at Leeds is one of the leading groups of life-science researchers within the UK, offering superb facilities, providing a high quality research training environment and delivering an exceptional student education.

**The Faculty vision:** to achieve excellence in education and research, and to secure a position in the top 10 Life Sciences faculties in the UK for both research and student experience.

To pursue our vision, we have identified the following priorities:

- Fostering future research activity aligned with the 'grand challenge' areas of translational biomedicine and sustainability in order to achieve international excellence in research;
- To embed a world-class student education experience which emphasises research-led teaching and employability.

### Overview of research

Significant investments in our infrastructure contribute to our dynamic and vibrant research environment that offers excellent opportunities for leading edge research focused around key areas. These include agriculture, animal and plant sciences, ecology and evolution, membrane biology, cardiovascular research, sports and exercise science, structural molecular biology, immunology, virology, microbiology, neurosciences, and tissue engineering.

Our **research strategy** is to concentrate our research in three broad themes:

- Improving understanding of how the surprisingly small number of genes in a genome are regulated and interact to provide the information needed for the complexity of highly-evolved organisms ranging from plants to humans. A particular emphasis involves understanding the interactions of proteins with other proteins, nucleic acids and small molecules. One aim is the development and application of novel technologies for the discovery of novel compounds that act by modulating biomolecular interactions as candidate drugs.
- Improving knowledge of the molecular mechanisms of human genetic disorders and disease, in particular cardiovascular and neurodegenerative diseases, diabetes and infections such as hepatitis C and MRSA.

- Developing methods to allow sustainable agriculture in the face of the twin threats of human population growth and climate change. This will be both in terms of security of food production (including novel crops) but also in terms of ecological sustainability. We will develop methods to protect biodiversity in the broadest sense from genetic diversity through populations of species and ecological communities to functioning ecosystems.

Our research is coordinated within 3 institutes: the Institute of Integrative and Comparative Biology, the Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology, and the Institute of Membrane and Systems Biology. In addition there are a number of cross-Faculty interdisciplinary research groupings, including:

- The Astbury Centre for Structural Molecular Biology that links biologists with chemists and physicists in the Faculty of Mathematics and Physical Sciences.
- The Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering which encompasses multidisciplinary research across medicine, biology and engineering.
- The Multidisciplinary Cardiovascular Research Centre which promotes cross-disciplinary research between biological sciences and clinical medicine.
- The Earth Biosphere Institute which includes researchers in Ecology, Geography and the School of Earth & Environment.
- The Biomedical and Health Research Centre, a strategic partnership between the University's four science faculties and the Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust, to promote collaboration between basic sciences, translational and clinical research.
- Africa College, an interdisciplinary initiative based on national and international partnerships and focussed on major issues related to the relationship between agriculture, human nutritional health and sustainability.

In addition to 110 academic staff, the Faculty has over 400 postdoctoral fellows and postgraduate students supported by a current active research grant portfolio of some £53M derived from a range of sources including charities, Research Councils, the European Union and industry. Postgraduate training is coordinated through the Faculty Graduate School. The Faculty hosts a prestigious Wellcome Trust four-year PhD studentship program, participates in the White Rose EPSRC doctoral Training Program and hosts European Union Marie Curie Training Sites.

Our position amongst the UK elite for bioscience research was confirmed in the last government Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) 2008 when we were ranked 4th for biological sciences in the UK by the leading scientific journal 'Nature' based on the number of staff producing research that was "world leading" or "internationally excellent".

### **Overview of Student Education**

With around 2000 undergraduate students and 150 taught postgraduate students, the Faculty of Biological Sciences is one of the largest life sciences faculties in the UK. Our programmes cover the breadth of Biological Sciences with undergraduate programmes in the general areas of Biology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Medical Sciences including physiology and neuroscience and in Sport and Exercise Science and postgraduate courses in Biodiversity and Conservation and in Bioscience. We have an Undergraduate and Graduate School office structure at Faculty level to ensure that students benefit from the same high quality level of support. We are currently refurbishing space for high quality teaching laboratories as part of our ongoing improvement programme. We take pride in our teaching and we are committed to providing students with the very best student experience through research-led teaching and excellent academic support. We consistently perform well in the National Student Survey and our commitment to Student

Education has been recognised through external awards to students through schemes such as Science Engineering and Technology (SET) awards and to staff in National Lecturer awards. A number of our academics have also been awarded National and University Teaching Fellowships for their outstanding contributions to teaching and the development of student learning. Staff are regularly recognised by students for their dedication and hard work as personal tutors in the annual awards organised by Leeds University Union. We are extremely proud of our approach to integrating appropriate technology into the student experience by making learning materials more accessible and enhancing communication between tutors and students, for example through podcasts and video feedback and the use of e-voting handsets for interactive lectures. We are increasingly prioritising employability skills through our Industrial Advisory Group, teaching approaches and specific employability modules. We have four year Industrial and International programmes to give students the opportunity to gain experience in a work environment or to study abroad. We are also introducing four year integrated M-level degree programmes.

### **Institute of Membrane and Systems Biology**

The Institute is one of three research institutes in the Faculty of Biological Sciences at Leeds – one of the largest groupings of biological scientists in the United Kingdom. It contains 47 academic staff and independent research fellows within four Research Groups – Integrative Membrane Biology, Neuroscience and Cardiovascular and Sports & Exercise Sciences. Interests are broad-ranging, from fundamental studies on the structures and functions of membrane proteins, to physiological questions in the mammalian cardiovascular and nervous systems – all the way to up to studies of health, exercise and disease in humans. Research in the Institute is well-funded from RCUK, charitable and industry sources and there is an exciting and interactive environment for modern research relating to animal and human health, as well as access to cutting-edge research equipment including one of the first automated planar patch-clamp systems in academia. Research space is recently refurbished to a high standard. The Faculty and the University as a whole operate “low-wall” principles for research groupings, centres and institutes with the aim of encouraging cross-disciplinary research and integrative approaches to big scientific questions. A number of staff are located within, or collaborate with researchers in the Leeds Institute of Genetics Health and Therapy (LIGHT) contiguous with the Leeds General Infirmary and giving direct access to clinical colleagues. This places the Institute in a powerful scientific environment that encourages and supports research and research-training at the highest level.

### **Sports and Exercise Sciences Group**

The Group's research spans from molecular, cellular and computational studies of the cardiovascular system to studies of the impact of physical activity on human physiological and motor function, in health and disease. Group members contribute to wider University Centres including the Multidisciplinary Cardiovascular Research Centre and the Sport & Exercise Sciences Cross-Faculty Research Group. A major SRIF3 development has just been completed, providing purpose built laboratory space for cardiovascular research in a prime site within the Faculty of Biological Sciences. The group has also recently benefited from the appointment of 4 tenure-track Research Fellows in Cardiovascular Biology, and a Lecturer in Sport and Exercise Sciences. Current funding includes major awards from Action Research, BBSRC, British Heart Foundation, Wellcome Trust and MRC.

Sports and Exercise Science research uses contemporary systems-integrative perspective to investigate exercise responses, control mechanisms and exercise adherence. Application and translation spans elite athletes, the elderly, and children as well as patients with chronic heart and lung disease, spinal cord injuries, cancer and motor impairments. Research is divided into **three research themes**; health, ageing and

chronic disease and motor control. The ultimate purpose of this work is to generate basic knowledge, from the result of both animal and human studies; that will lead to the development of movement/exercise protocols that yield maximal benefits for healthy development and ageing, motor learning/re-learning and rehabilitation.

### **Management and Staffing Structure**

The Institute Director is Prof. Paul Milner, who chairs the Institute Management Group and reports to the Faculty Executive Committee (FEC) and the Dean of the Faculty. The Dean and FEC report to the Faculty Management Group and Vice Chancellor's Executive group, who take overall responsibility for the Management of the University.

## **9. HOW TO APPLY**

To apply for this position, please complete both parts of the application process as detailed below.

### **Part 1**

Your application should be sent to [Leedschairs@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:Leedschairs@leeds.ac.uk) and should detail the position and job reference number in the subject box. An application should consist of:

- a covering letter detailing how you would envisage fulfilling the requirements of the post;
- your curriculum vitae;
- details of three referees including their email addresses where possible;
- any further information you feel would be relevant to your application.

### **Part 2**

Please complete the following Equal Opportunities monitoring form (found [here](#)) and return it to the following email address: [EOmonitoring@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:EOmonitoring@leeds.ac.uk)

If you have any queries regarding this process, please contact David Brett, Senior Staff Recruitment & Administration Officer on 0113 343 5775 or at [d.j.brett@adm.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:d.j.brett@adm.leeds.ac.uk)

## **10. FURTHER INFORMATION**

Details of the terms and conditions of employment for all staff at the university, including information on pensions and benefits, are available on the Human Resources web pages accessible at [www.leeds.ac.uk/hr/index.htm](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/hr/index.htm)

### **Criminal Record Disclosures**

A Criminal Records Disclosure is not required for this position. However, applicants who have unspent convictions must submit a separate document with full details of any unspent criminal convictions or any criminal proceedings that are pending against you.

On this document, please state clearly your full name, the job reference number and the job title of the post for which you are applying.

This document should either be sent in an envelope marked 'Private and Confidential' or emailed to the Recruitment Officer, whose contact details are shown below:

E-mail: [disclosure@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:disclosure@leeds.ac.uk)

Postal address: The Recruitment Officer, Human Resources, E C Stoner Building, University of Leeds, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds LS2 9JT



Telephone: +44 (0)113 343 1723

This information will only be considered if your application is shortlisted; if you are unsuccessful at this stage, then the information will be destroyed. If you declare a conviction, this will not necessarily prevent you from being offered a position at the University.

### **Right to work**

Under Home Office UK Border Agency regulations, employers who wish to appoint a worker from overseas who do not already hold the right to work in the UK under an immigration category, including those holding Tier 2 certificate status (as these are not transferrable between organisations) are required to demonstrate that they are unable to recruit a resident worker. Applications from candidates that require Tier 2 immigration status to work in the UK are encouraged and will be considered alongside all other applications. Non-EEA candidates may not be appointed to a post if a suitably qualified, experienced and skilled EU/EEA candidate is available to take up the post as the employing body is unlikely, in these circumstances, to satisfy the Resident Labour Market Test. For further information please visit the Home office UK Border Office: (<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/>)

### **Disabled Applicants**

Disabled applicants wishing to review building access are invited to contact the department directly. Additional information may be sought from the Recruitment Officer, email [disclosure@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:disclosure@leeds.ac.uk) or tel + 44 (0)113 343 1723.

Disabled applicants are not obliged to inform employers of their disability but will still be covered by the Equality Act once their disability becomes known.

Further information for applicants with disabilities, impairments or health conditions is available in the applicant guidance.

### **Data Protection**

The information you provide in your application will be used to consider your suitability for the post you have applied for. If your application is not successful, the information will be disposed of confidentially within 9 months. If your application is successful and you are appointed, your information and future data will be processed in accordance with the University's Data Protection Code of Practice. A copy of this code can be obtained from either the University of Leeds Human Resources Department or by visiting:

<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/hr/policy/terms.htm>

### **References**

It is the custom of this University to approach the referees of only those candidates who are invited to interview. Applicants are asked, therefore, to indicate clearly if they do not wish such approaches to be made.