

Candidate Information

Position: Research Fellow

School/Department: Institute for Global Food Security

Reference: 19/107492

Closing Date: Wednesday 26 June 2019
Salary: £33,199 to £35,210 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date: Thursday 18 July 2019

Duration: 3 years

JOB PURPOSE:

To be an active member of the research team led by Dr Lisa Connolly at the Institute for Global Food Security, assisting in the planning and delivery of the research and the development of research proposals. The successful candidate will work on a H2020 project, FREIA, focusing on endocrine disrupting chemicals and their health effects including that of female infertility.

This post is available for 3 years.

MAJOR DUTIES:

- 1. Develop and plan endocrine disruptor related research and expertise under supervision and as a member of the research team in order to obtain reliable data for the FREIA research project.
- 2. Design, develop and refine experimental apparatus for experiments.
- Undertake research to develop and validate in vitro bioassays on platforms such as high content analysis for the study of endocrine disruptors and cytotoxicity.
- 4. Conduct toxicological and endocrine disruptor analyses of chemicals and undertake the critical evaluations and interpretation of results using methodologies and other techniques appropriate to area of research.
- 5. Present regular progress reports on research to members of the research group or to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
- 6. Prepare, often in consultation with supervisor, material for publication in national and international journals and presentations at international conferences.
- 7. Assist grant holder in the preparation of funding proposals and applications to external bodies.
- 8. Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research project/s to ensure that project/s are completed on time and within budget. These might include organisation of project meetings and documentation, financial control, risk assessment of research activities.
- 9. Carry out occasional undergraduate supervision, demonstrating or lecturing duties within the post holder's area of expertise and under the direct guidance of a member of academic staff.
- 10. Read academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast of developments in own specialism and related disciplines.

Planning and Organising:

- 1. Plan for specific aspects of research programmes. Timescales range from 1-6 months in advance and contribute to research group planning.
- 2. Plan for the use of research resources, laboratories and workshops where appropriate.
- 3. Plan own day-to day activity within framework of the agreed research programme.
- 4. Plan up to a year in advance to meet deadlines for journal publications and to prepare presentations and papers for conferences
- 5. Coordinate and liaise with other members of the research group over work progress.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Ensure research resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.

2. Provide guidance as required to support staff and any students who may be assisting with research.

Internal and External Relationships:

- 1. Liaise on a regular basis with research colleagues and students on routine matters.
- 2. Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks for the exchange of information and to form relationships for future collaboration.
- 3. Join external networks to share information and ideas, and develop external collaborations as appropriate.
- 4. Contribute to the School's outreach programme by establishing links with local community groups, industries etc.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

- 1. Have or be about to obtain a PhD in Biological Sciences, Biomedical Sciences or related discipline.
- 2. Three years recent relevant research experience to include practical experience in the following:
 - Mammalian cell culture techniques
 - Mammalian in vitro toxicological bioassays.
 - in vitro bioassays for the analysis of endocrine disruptors.
 - Endocrine disruptor analysis using reporter gene assays and high content analysis.
- 3. Ability to supervise, mentor and support undergraduate and postgraduate students on research projects within the laboratory setting.
- 4. Ability to contribute to broader management and administrative processes.
- 5. Methodological approach to project management and meticulous in terms of experimental procedures and record keeping.
- 6. Willingness to contribute to the School and project outreach activities in a professional manner.
- 7. Sufficient breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline and of research methods and techniques to work within established research programmes.
- 8. Strong analytical and problem solving skills.
- 9. Ability to assess and organise resources.
- 10. Ability to logically conceptualise and summarise the research findings and data.
- 11. Ability to interact with research colleagues and support staff.
- 12. Ability to analyse and communicate effectively.
- 13. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
- 14. Strong ability to work independently and use own initiative.
- 15. Ability to assess and organise resources.
- 16. Flexibility regarding working hours.
- 17. Willing to undertake work and ad-hoc travel internationally as required by the project.
- 18. Willingness to conduct research analysis on human samples.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

- 1. Experience in the development of in vitro bioassays for endocrine disruptor analysis.
- 2. Experience in the development of in vitro bioassays for cytotoxicity analysis.
- 3. Previous experience in collaborating with international projects and scientists.
- 4. Experience of presenting results in front of peers, meetings or conferences.
- 5. Experience of preparing reports or material for publication in journals or media.