Candidate Information

Position:	Queen's Illuminate Pharmacy Fellow
School/Department:	Faculty Office MHLS
Reference:	25/112971
Closing Date:	Monday 24 November 2025
Salary:	£51,016 - £62,695 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	It is expected that visits and interviews will take place in January/February 2026.
Duration:	Fixed term for 3 years with track to a permanent academic post by the end of the Fellowship, subject to meeting probationary requirements.

JOB PURPOSE:

To undertake original and internationally leading research in an area relevant to pharmaceutical sciences, biotechnology or the practice of pharmacy. Priority areas for the School of Pharmacy include but are not necessarily limited to drug delivery and targeting, biomaterials, advanced pharmaceutical manufacture, drug target identification and validation, drug discovery and development, pharmaceutical microbiology and microbiomics, clinical and community pharmacy practice, and medicines optimisation across primary and secondary care. Fellows will develop and manage major research projects in line with the strategy of the School of Pharmacy.

The Fellow will also undertake the appropriate teaching, professional development and citizenship activities that meet the criteria for a tenured academic post on successful completion of the Fellowship.

There will be increasing engagement with teaching and the associated administration throughout the 3 year duration of the Fellowship up to a maximum commitment of 20% of time during year three.

MAJOR DUTIES

Research:

1. Sustain a high-quality publication record by publishing in leading international peer-reviewed journals as appropriate to discipline and by presenting at high impact national and international conferences.
2. Develop research proposals and secure funding as principal investigator from appropriate sources e.g. UK Research Councils, the European Research Council, industry and other major funders to support personal research activities and the development of a research team/ or collaborative network.
3. Maintain a coherent and ambitious research plan, setting clear targets and milestones; monitor and manage project budgets effectively; supervise research staff and post-graduate students; and liaise with funders, collaborators and other stakeholders internally and externally to ensure successful delivery.
4. Pursue research with demonstrable potential for economic, societal or health impact.
5. Build and sustain strategic collaborations with leading researchers and institutions nationally and internationally to enhance the School's research reputation and networks.
6. Supervise PhD students (domestic and international) during their research programmes and facilitate UG/PGT supervision of discipline appropriate project/dissertation work.
7. Direct, mentor and develop research staff, where appropriate to develop independent research capabilities and career progression.
8. Ensure timely completion and effective management of research projects maintaining compliance with institutional, financial, and ethical requirements.

Teaching:

1. Make a high-quality contribution to teaching and the associated academic administration with an increasing engagement in teaching activities during years two to three, with a maximum commitment of 20% of time.

2. Supervise and support students undertaking research projects and dissertations within the Fellow's area of expertise, fostering a high-quality learning and research environment.
3. Conduct laboratory-based teaching and training, where applicable, providing guidance on experimental design, research methods and analytical techniques.

Administration/Citizenship:
1. Contribute to the University's outreach strategy by developing external links.
2. Develop links with relevant research groups, industries and external bodies to encourage knowledge exchange opportunities and/or create opportunities for future research projects.
3. Support internationalisation through, for example, development of global partnerships, reputation enhancement, and student recruitment.
4. Carry out designated administrative duties appropriate to the requirements of a research role.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA
1. A relevant degree.
2. PhD (or equivalent) in a relevant subject such as pharmacy, pharmaceutical sciences, pharmaceutical biotechnology, pharmaceutical microbiology, drug delivery, biomaterials.
3. Normally 2-8 years recent and relevant post-PhD experience.
4. Specific demonstrable experience and expertise and a research plan which addresses one of the priority research areas outlined in the Additional Information below.
5. A high-quality publication record, with evidence of leadership, in high quality, internationally recognised peer reviewed journals.
6. Journal articles, books or other output forms as appropriate to discipline and that are REF returnable at 3* and 4*.
7. Specific demonstrable experience and expertise that aligns with area of experimental therapeutics research.
8. Experience in the field(s) of pharmaceutical sciences, biotechnology or practice, which may include one or more of the following areas: drug target identification and validation, drug discovery and development, drug delivery and targeting, biomaterials, advanced pharmaceutical manufacture, pharmaceutical microbiology and microbiomics, clinical and community pharmacy practice, and medicines optimisation across primary and secondary care.
9. A high academic standing for stage of career with a growing reputation in research within subject specialism.
10. Evidence of leadership in identifying and answering research questions that are sustainable and which enhance and complement the research activities of the Faculty and that of funding bodies.
11. Willingness to undertake sufficient teaching and associated administration to allow translation to an academic post at the end of the fellowship.
12. Ability to contribute to the wider administration and management processes of the University.
13. Sufficient breadth and depth of knowledge of qualitative and/or quantitative research methods and techniques particularly associated with data, relevant to the type of research undertaken.
14. Appreciation of emerging issues such as sustainability, net zero, research integrity, ethnicity, diversity and inclusion.
15. Ability to manage resources.
16. Demonstrable ability to communicate complex information effectively.
17. Ability and willingness to contribute to the University's outreach programmes.
18. Ability to work independently with a high level of self-motivation while working effectively as part of a wider team.
19. Demonstrable ability to work in accordance with Queen's Values.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA
1. Experience in drug discovery.
2. Evidence of previous successful grant funding applications.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Priority Research Areas:
1. Drug Delivery and Biomaterials - Applicants specialising in this discipline will have expertise in one or more of the following areas:
- Development and translation of natural and synthetic polymeric drug delivery systems for small molecule and/or macromolecular drugs and/or biomaterials.
- Advanced pharmaceutical manufacturing (e.g., continuous manufacturing continuous manufacturing, additive manufacturing (3D printing), and digitally enabled manufacturing) for drug delivery and/or biomaterials.

- Clinical and/or pre-clinical experience in the evaluation of drug delivery systems and/or biomaterials.

2. Infection and Antimicrobial Resistance - Applicants specialising in this discipline will have expertise in one or more of the following areas:

- Development of novel approaches to improve lung infection management in respiratory infectious disease particularly focused on cystic fibrosis, bronchiectasis, and/or COPD.
- Development and translation of novel biofilm control approaches or technologies, including new antimicrobials for biofilm control, and models for understanding biofilm susceptibility and tolerance to antimicrobial challenge, and transcriptome/microbiome level approaches to understand antimicrobial mode of action.
- Antimicrobial resistance evolution, mechanisms and diagnostic technologies, and drug delivery strategies to enhance antimicrobial efficacy and overcome antimicrobial tolerance/resistance.
- Discovery and translation of novel antimicrobial therapeutics, including antibiotics, anti-biofilm agents, and anti-infective biomaterials, or novel approaches to accelerate antibiotic/antimicrobial discovery, including AI-driven genome-mining antimicrobial discovery.

3. Nanomedicine and Biotherapeutics - Applicants specialising in this discipline will have expertise in one or more of the following areas:

- Development and translation of natural and synthetic polymeric nanoparticle drug delivery systems for small molecule and/or macromolecular drugs.
- Expertise in drug target identification and validation and/or nanoparticle delivery mechanisms at the cell, tissue and whole organism levels.
- Interdisciplinary expertise in polymer chemistry, biomaterials, cell biology, advanced imaging modalities, functional or 3D preclinical models, and animal studies.
- Applications of such technologies to include, but not restricted to: gene therapy, nucleic acid vaccines, genome editing, regenerative medicine, respiratory and cancer therapeutics.

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Informal enquiries can be directed to: Fellowships Mailbox - fellowships@qub.ac.uk.