

1 Advertisement

Post Title: Lecturer in Translational Science (Education and Research)

School: School of Life Sciences

Hours: Full-time or part-time hours considered up to a maximum of 1.0 FTE. Requests for [flexible working](#) options will be considered (subject to business need).

Location: Brighton, UK.

Contract: Permanent

Reference: 20492

Salary: starting at £44,414 to £52,841 per annum, pro rata if part-time.

Placed on: 03 July 2023

Closing date: 03 August 2023. Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.

Expected Interview date: to be confirmed

Expected start date: Autumn 2023

The [School of Life Sciences](#) at the University of Sussex is at the forefront of research in the UK. In the recent Research Excellence Framework assessment (REF 2021) 100% of our [Impact cases](#) in Biological Sciences and Chemistry were rated as world-leading or internationally excellent. The School has received substantial recent University and external investment in infrastructure and is embarking on an exciting and extensive, multi-million pound refurbishment and improvement project. The School has excellent advanced instrumentation facilities and in addition to our Wolfson Centre for Biological Imaging and Cryo-electron microscope Facility (which includes a cryoARM200) we have recently purchased new mass spectrometry and X-ray crystallography equipment which will be housed in a new Centre for Molecular Structure alongside new NMR equipment.

The School is looking to appoint a Lecturer with active or developing translational research projects in areas which align with our current bioscience and drug discovery research interests and expertise. Our research interests in translational science span the departments of [Biochemistry and Biomedicine](#), [Chemistry](#), [the Genome Damage and Stability Centre](#) and [Neuroscience](#) and are underpinned by the [Sussex Drug Discovery Centre](#). We are also well networked with the adjacent Brighton and Sussex Medical School through networks including [the RNA Biology Research group](#) and the [Haematology Research Group](#). Across the School we have particular strengths and interests in the areas of genome biology, cancer biology, neuroscience and infectious disease and are internationally recognised for our research excellence in structural biology, with many active structure-led drug discovery projects. We also have ion channel and electrophysiology research expertise, excellent functional imaging platforms and industry-standard automated patch clamp technology which has been successfully used to progress the development of new ion channel-targeted medicines through to clinical trials.

The successful candidate will have a proven track record of successful translational science research. A School-funded PhD studentship will be provided and there will be opportunities to apply annually to our successful BBSRC-funded South Coast Biosciences Doctoral Training Programme for collaborative PhD studentships.

The School of Life Sciences is committed to increasing the diversity of its staff and providing an inclusive working environment. The School currently holds an Athena SWAN Silver Award, has developed a Race Equity Action Plan and hosts an active Equality, Diversity and Inclusion working group.

Applications are particularly welcomed from Black and minority ethnic candidates, and women, trans and non-binary candidates, who are under-represented in the School of Life Sciences.

Applications to posts from candidates who wish to work part-time or as job-sharers are welcome.

The University offers various schemes to provide real benefits to parents, these can be found at [Family Friendly Policies](#)

Potential candidates are strongly encouraged to make informal contact with Professor Michelle West (m.j.west@sussex.ac.uk) Deputy Head of School [she/her] and/or Professor Sarah Guthrie (S.Guthrie@sussex.ac.uk) [she/her], Head of School, before applying.

Applications should be accompanied by a full CV, a statement of research interests and aspirations (not more than 4 pages), and the names of three academic referees.

For full details and how to apply see our [vacancies page](#)

The University of Sussex values the diversity of its staff and students and we welcome applicants from all backgrounds

2. The School of Life Sciences

The [School of Life Sciences](#) has a mission statement to understand the mechanisms that drive biological and chemical processes; to develop innovative and diverse approaches to enhance human health, technology and the environment. It undertakes research, teaching and engagement across a wide range of the Life Sciences, from Chemistry through a range of biological and medically-related areas to Conservation Biology. The breadth and depth of cutting-edge research and innovative teaching practice requires a diverse community who work across boundaries to deliver excellence. Multidisciplinarity is a key strength at Sussex, and the School of Life Sciences is part of two collaborative cross-School funded Strategic Research Programmes: Sussex Neuroscience (SN) and the Sussex Sustainability Research Programme (SSRP). Sussex Neuroscience brings together broad-ranging neuroscience approaches from the Schools of Life Sciences, Psychology, Engineering and Informatics, as well as the Brighton and Sussex Medical School. SSRP brings together Life Sciences, Global Studies and the University of Sussex Business School to address the United Nations sustainable development goals.

The School of Life Sciences is the largest in the University in terms of research activity, with an annual research income of around £13 million. The School has a teaching and research faculty of around 90, over 140 research staff, and an administrative team of around 20. The School is structured into five Departments led by a Head of Department. These are Biochemistry & Biomedicine, Genome Damage and Stability Centre, Neuroscience, Evolution, Behaviour & Environment and Chemistry, working closely with the Sussex Drug Discovery Centre. The Head of School Professor Sarah Guthrie leads the Head of School Executive, which includes two Deputy Heads of School (one focussed on research and enterprise, the other on education), the School Administrator and the Director of Technical Services. Wider School organisation and administration is overseen by the School Management Committee, which includes the Heads of Departments and others in Directorship roles.

Our School aims to develop scientists that are able to connect with global issues and develop innovative solutions to the challenges that face the planet. We therefore work to ensure that our research positively impacts our local community, the economy and society as a whole. We have and continue to develop relationships with business, policy and community partners ranging from local SMEs to large scale multinational organisations. Academics, researchers, and students at all levels are encouraged to engage with non-academic partners through activities such as technology and skills sharing, licencing IP, contract research or consultancy, working closely with colleagues in the Sussex Innovations and Business Partnership team.

In the recent Research Excellence Framework (REF2021), 90.6 % of our Biological Sciences outputs and 84.8% of our Chemistry outputs were rated as world-leading or internationally excellent. In both areas, 100% of our [Impact cases](#) were rated as world-leading or internationally excellent. We are proud that our research has diverse impact that includes enabling and enhancing diagnosis of cancer and rare genetic diseases, using novel chemical methods to produce new medicines, saving endangered species, influencing policy and practice in pesticide use to protect bees and establishing conservation, economic and health initiatives in Papua New Guinea and Ecuador.

Our vibrant post-graduate research community is made up of around 130 PhD students who are key to our success, undertaking cutting-edge research across all our areas of interest in the Life Sciences. We are part of a number of cross-School and multi-partner PhD programmes: the Sussex Neuroscience PhD programme, 2 Leverhulme-funded Doctoral Scholarship programmes (*Sensation and Perception to Awareness* and *Biomimetic*

Embodied AI), the UKRI funded *UK Food Systems Centre* for Doctoral Training and the BBSRC *South Coast Biosciences (SoCoBio)* Doctoral Training Partnership.

The School's teaching is firmly based on our research excellence and offers students an intellectually stimulating and supportive experience, with opportunities for personal research experience and use of modern technology to enhance learning. The School has a population of around 1500 undergraduates studying a range of subjects across the School's expertise. For each degree we offer a 3-year BSc and a 4-year integrated Masters (MSci or MChem). We also offer a Life Sciences Foundation Year, which is ideally suited for students whose A-level (or equivalent) qualifications don't meet the requirements for direct entry on to our BSc/MSci degrees. We have a population of around 85 postgraduate taught students undertaking MSc or MRes courses across our subject expertise.

The School is committed to the University's core values of kindness, integrity, inclusion, collaboration and courage. The Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee (with representation on the School Management Committee) promotes and encourages our values across the School, championing initiatives that meet the University's goals of being Equal, Diverse, Accessible and Flexible. We currently hold an Athena SWAN Silver Award and have a BAME Awarding Gap Committee who closely liaise with the University's Race Equality Charter committee. The School also hosts a wellbeing room and a multi-faith prayer room within its estate and the University supports the Trans Rights are Human Rights UK initiative. We believe that equality, diversity and inclusion is everyone's business and aim to provide a friendly and supportive environment for all who work, study and visit the School of Life Sciences.

CORE JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Lecturer in Translational Science
Grade:	Lecturer B (Research & Education focussed), Grade 8
School:	School of Life Sciences
Location:	John Maynard Smith Building
Responsible to:	Head of School
Direct reports:	n/a
Key contacts:	Students, other members of Faculty within the School and University, School Officers, academics in the field in other institutions.

Role Description	Lecturer B is a career-grade teaching and research position. Post-holders will be expected to take full responsibility for the design, management and delivery of their own teaching, be able to demonstrate an established research portfolio, and a growing reputation in their field of study. They will also be expected to provide support and guidance to less experienced members of staff.
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PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. To design and deliver high-quality teaching programmes that are attractive to students.
2. To engage in individual and collaborative research activity resulting in high-quality publications to be submitted to the REF at acceptable levels of volume and academic excellence, and to obtain research funding and/or knowledge exchange income as appropriate to the discipline.
3. To contribute fully to the School and University by playing a significant role in working groups, committees, and other School and University activities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Teaching & Student Support

- 1.1 Engage in the planning, delivery and assessment of innovative high-quality undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, in liaison with the relevant programme and course convenors.
- 1.2 Identify, design, develop and manage new curriculum proposals that are attractive to students.
- 1.3 Develop high-quality inclusive teaching materials, methods and approaches, take responsibility for their quality, and ensure that they meet defined learning objectives.
- 1.4 Ensure that teaching materials remain up-to-date and relevant, incorporating advances in the subject area into the course of study, and utilising appropriate technology.
- 1.5 Set, mark, and assess coursework and examinations; select appropriate assessment instruments and assessment criteria, and provide constructive and comprehensive feedback to students.
- 1.6 Undertake continuous professional development to maintain an understanding of appropriate pedagogy in the subject area.
- 1.7 Supervise the work of undergraduate and taught postgraduate students, providing advice on study skills.
- 1.8 Contribute to the accreditation of courses and quality-control processes.
- 1.9 Undertake and complete administrative duties required in the professional delivery of teaching.
- 1.10 Undertake academic advising duties, and provide first-line support for sensitive issues, referring on as appropriate to services providing further assistance.
- 1.11 Adopt an approachable and accessible attitude towards students, offering office hours, informal advice etc.

2. Research, Scholarship & Enterprise

- 2.1 Contribute to School research strategy and themes.
- 2.2 Develop research objectives and proposals for own or joint research.
- 2.3 Conduct research projects individually and in collaboration with others.
- 2.4 Assess, interpret and evaluate outcomes of research, and develop ideas for their application.
- 2.5 Produce high-quality research outputs that have impact in the field, for publication in monographs or recognised high-quality journals, or performance/exhibition, as appropriate,

and contribute to the School's REF submission at acceptable levels of volume and academic excellence.

2.6 Lead small research projects and/or identified parts of a larger project, including supervising the work of others and managing or monitoring a research budget, if appropriate.

2.7 Make presentations at conferences, or exhibit work in other appropriate events, and identify ways to disseminate research outputs informally via the internet, the media, and other forms of public engagement.

2.8 Identify sources of funding and secure or contribute to the process of securing bids.

2.9 Identify and secure opportunities for enterprise activity, knowledge exchange income and/or consultancy.

2.10 Actively build internal and external contacts, and play a key role in internal networks and relevant external networks in order to, for example, identify sources of funding, secure student placements, and build relationships for future activities.

2.11 Supervise doctoral students as part of a supervision team.

2.12 Contribute to a relevant national professional body or recognised events.

2.13 Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism, and engage in continuous professional development.

2.14 Conduct risk assessments, and take responsibility for the health and safety of others, if required.

3. Contribution to School & University

3.1 Attend and contribute to School meetings.

3.2 Engage in activities beyond day-to-day teaching duties, for example Admissions Days.

3.3 Assist with undergraduate and postgraduate recruitment.

3.4 Play a key role in School or University working groups or committees, as required.

3.5 Advise and provide support to less experienced colleagues.

3.6 Undertake additional administrative duties, as required by the Head of School.

4. Role-specific duties

4.1 Establish successful individual and/or collaborative research and/or knowledge exchange activities and projects and engage in translating research outputs through work with the Sussex Drug Discovery Centre.

4.2 Apply for and attract external funding.

- 4.3 Regularly publish high quality research articles and/or prepare and submit patents.
- 4.4 Supervise undergraduate and Masters level projects (laboratory and literature-based).

This Job Description sets out current duties of the post that may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the post or level of responsibility entailed.

INDICATIVE PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- A record of development of new modules/groups of modules, course or significant components of schemes of study or CPD courses.
- Proven and sustained track record of successful teaching at the levels appropriate for the post.
- A high standard of teaching performance as judged by standard evaluation methods.
- Evidence of using feedback information from a range of sources to improve the student experience.
- Evidence of using knowledge arising from research and scholarship to enhance teaching and curriculum development.
- Evidence of engagement in advising students and proactively responding to student problems.
- Regular published output of original research at international level (refereed journal papers, monographs, book chapters, text-books).
- Other evidence of original research contributions to the field, such as through invited conference contributions, membership of editorial panels etc.
- Evidence of successful postgraduate masters and doctoral research supervision i.e. to completion.
- Sustained success in obtaining competitively awarded research grants and contracts, and knowledge exchange income.
- Involvement in the creation, transfer and use of the results of research through a range of knowledge exchange activities.
- Success in transferring research results to commercial, professional, public sector or other practical use.
- Evidence of contributions to a relevant national professional body or recognised event.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

1. Normally educated to doctoral level, or other equivalent qualification, or appropriate level of experience, as appropriate to the discipline (see role-specific criteria below).
2. Excellent interpersonal skills, with the ability to engage with students using a variety of different methods.
3. Experience of teaching at undergraduate and taught postgraduate level.
4. Evidence of significant independent contribution to the design and execution of research.
5. An emerging track record of publications in reputable journals and other appropriate media of similar standing.
6. Excellent presentation skills, with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.
7. Ability to work individually on own initiative and without close supervision, and as part of a team.
8. Ability to exercise a degree of innovation and creative problem-solving.
9. Excellent organisational and administrative skills.
10. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.
11. A willingness to participate in support activities beyond normal classroom duties.
12. Excellent IT skills, with the ability to produce high-quality learning support materials.

ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

1. PhD level qualification in a relevant area.
2. Evidence of a track record of research and publications in a relevant bioscience or drug discovery area.
3. Experience of translating basic biomedical science through drug discovery activities in one or more of the following areas: target validation, high throughput screening, hit-to-lead optimisation or lead optimisation.
4. Knowledge of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion challenges in Higher Education.
5. Collegiate and supportive attitudes and behaviours when working with staff and students.
6. Ability to disseminate conceptual and complex ideas to a wide variety of audiences to promote understanding.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Experience of successful curriculum design or re-design.
2. A recognised higher education teaching qualification.
3. Experience of generating research or knowledge exchange income.
4. Experience of supervising postgraduate research students.
5. Experience of structure-led drug discovery.
6. Experience in establishing successful collaborations with colleagues in other fields, including: structural biology, neuroscience, infectious disease, cancer biology, synthetic/computational chemistry.
7. Experience of medicinal chemistry, computational drug discovery or precision medicine.
8. Experience of successful commercialisation or clinical adoption of novel translational technologies.