

1 Advertisement

Post Title: Research Fellow I

School/department: School of Life Sciences

Hours: Full-time or Part-time considered up to a maximum of 1.0 FTE / 37.5 hours

Requests for flexible working options will be considered (subject to business need).

There is expected to be some overlap with core working hours for the purpose of student supervision and project/group meetings.

Location: Brighton, United Kingdom

Contract: Fixed term for 3 years

Reference: 21493

Salary: starting at £37,099 to £44,263 per annum, pro rata if part-time.

Placed on: 14 August 2023

Closing date: 14 September. Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.

Expected interview date: Late September 2023

Expected start date: October 2023 or as close as possible.

The [Morgan Lab](#) at the University of Sussex is seeking to appoint a highly talented and motivated Research Fellow to progress a 3-year [Children's Cancer & Leukaemia Group \(CCLG\) Little Princess Trust \(LPT\) research project grant](#) targeting aberrant Wnt/ β -catenin signalling in paediatric acute myeloid leukaemia (pAML). Specifically, this project will interrogate β -catenin interaction with RNA binding proteins (RBP) and RNA and how this impacts pAML cell growth/survival/chemosensitivity, with the aim of developing targeted patient treatments.

The research focus of the group is centered around understanding the role of Wnt/ β -catenin signalling in both normal haematopoiesis and AML. Candidates with practical experience in RNA-based methods (e.g. RIP, CLIP, *in vitro* transcription, polysome profiling etc) are highly desirable alongside competencies in the following molecular techniques below:

- Flow cytometry
- Retroviral/Lentiviral generation
- Viral transduction
- qRT-PCR
- Haematopoietic tissue culture (cell lines and primary cells)
- Immunoblotting

The successful candidate will have access to state-of-the-art facilities housed within the School of Life Sciences and will have the opportunity to benefit from the wider expertise and resources available from the on-campus [Sussex Haematology Research](#) and [RNA Biology Research](#) groups. Dr Morgan is also keen and well placed to develop the careers of young early career researchers and welcomes applications from ambitious scientists pursuing their transition to independence.

Please contact Dr Rhys Morgan at rhys.morgan@sussex.ac.uk for informal enquiries.

The University is committed to equality and valuing diversity, and applications are

particularly welcomed from women and black and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts in Science, Technology, Engineering, Medicine and Mathematics (STEMM) at Sussex.

“Please note that this position may be subject to [ATAS clearance](#) if you require visa sponsorship.”

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.

Please note: The University requires that work undertaken for the University is performed from the UK.

2. The School / Division

Please find further information regarding the school/division at <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/lifesci/>

3. Job Description

Job Description for the post of: Research Fellow

Department: Biochemistry & Biomedicine

Section/Unit/School: Life Sciences

Location: John Maynard Smith Building, Laboratory 3C18

Grade: 7

Responsible to: Dr Rhys Morgan (PI) and Professor Michelle West (Head of School)

Role description: Research Fellow I is an early career-grade research position. Post-holders will be expected to contribute to the work of the research team, and also to develop their research skills with support from more experienced members of staff.

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. To engage in individual and/or collaborative research activity resulting in high-quality publications; and to develop research funding and knowledge exchange income individually or in collaboration with others, as appropriate, depending on the size and scope of the bid.
2. To contribute to School teaching activities.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Research, Scholarship & Enterprise

- 1.1 Develop research objectives and proposals for own or joint research, at acceptable levels, with assistance if required.
- 1.2 Conduct research projects individually and in collaboration with others.
- 1.3 Analyse and interpret research findings and draw conclusions on the outcomes.
- 1.4 Produce high-quality research outputs 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.
- 1.5 Contribute to the preparation of proposals and applications to external bodies, for example for funding purposes.
- 1.6 Individually or with colleagues, explore opportunities for enterprise activity, knowledge exchange income and/or consultancy, where permissible.
- 1.7 Build internal contacts and participate in internal networks and relevant external networks in order to form relationships and collaborations.
- 1.8 Continually update knowledge and understanding in field or specialism, and engage in continuous professional development.

2. Teaching & Student Support

- 2.1 Undertake teaching duties, if required.
- 2.2 Assist in the assessment of student knowledge and supervision of student projects if required.
- 2.3 Assist in the development of student research skills, for example as part of a postgraduate supervision team.

3. Contribution to School & University

- 3.1 Attend and contribute to relevant School and project meetings.
- 3.2 Undertake additional duties, as required by the Principal Investigator and/or Head of School.

4. Role-specific duties

- 4.1 Supervision of PhD, postgraduate and undergraduate project students in the lab
- 4.2 To contribute towards weekly cord blood collection and processing in the lab

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 PhD or equivalent scholarly or relevant professional activity
- Pursuing a line of independent research within a research group.
- Publishing research (either from a recently completed PhD or new original research).
- Other forms of externally recognised professional practice of creative output of a standing equivalent to regular publication of original research.
- Initiating, developing or participating in links between the University and external bodies such as business and industry, the professions, community organisations and policy-makers.
- Evidence of successful engagement in teaching or supervision.

4. 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. Evidence of engagement in high-quality research activity.
3. Excellent presentation skills, with the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.
4. Ability to work individually on own initiative and without close supervision, and as part of a team.
5. Ability to exercise a degree of innovation and creative problem-solving.
6. Excellent organisational and administrative skills.
7. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.
8. Excellent IT skills.

ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

1. Expertise in RNA-based analytical methods

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Emerging track record of high-quality publications in reputable journals and other appropriate media of similar standing.
2. Experience of generating research or knowledge exchange income.