1 Advertisement

Post Title: Reader in Genome Stability
School/Department: School of Life Sciences / Genome Damage and Stability Centre
Hours: full time or part time hours considered up to a maximum of 1 FTE. Requests for flexible working options will be considered (subject to business need).
Location: Brighton, United Kingdom.
Contract: Permanent
Reference: 21606
Salary: Starting at £56,021 to £64,914 per annum, pro rata if part time.
Placed on: 09 October 2023
Closing date: 15 November 2023. Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.
Expected Interview date: December 2023.
Expected Start date: 1st February 2024

The Genome Damage and Stability Centre at the University of Sussex wishes to appoint a Reader in Genome Stability. The appointee will contribute to the Centre’s mission of understanding and exploiting the molecular mechanisms of genome maintenance.

The University welcomes applications from talented and nationally / internationally recognised scientists conducting ground-breaking research in chromosome biology / genome stability. The post-holder will be expected to establish externally funded and internationally competitive research and actively participate in teaching within the School of Life Sciences.

Please contact either Keith Caldecott (k.w.caldecott@sussex.ac.uk) or Tony Carr (a.m.carr@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.

The University offers various schemes to provide real benefits to parents, these can be found at Family Friendly Policies.

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.

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 of Life Sciences / Genome Damage and Stability Centre

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.

Based in the School of Life Sciences, the Genome Damage and Stability Centre is a University of Sussex a Centre of Excellence. Drawing together world-leading experts and creating a critical mass of knowledge, we carry out research on the response of cells to DNA damage, genome instability and its relationship to human disease. We provide a stimulating and supportive environment, and our expertise covers a range of experimental systems.

An overview of research activities at the Genome Damage and Stability Centre can be found here.

3. Job Description

Job Description for the post of: Reader in Genome Stability

Department: Genome Damage and Stability Centre

School: School of Life Sciences

Location: Brighton, United Kingdom

Grade: Reader (Research & Education focussed), Grade 9

Responsible to: Head of School

Key contacts: GDSC Director(s), students, other members of Faculty within the School and University, School Officers, academics in the field in other institutions.

Role description: Reader is a senior career-grade teaching and research position. Post-holders will be expected to show academic leadership in both teaching and research, and to support the management and strategic planning processes of the School and the University.
PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. To provide academic leadership in the design and delivery of high-quality teaching programmes.

2. To engage in high-quality research activity resulting in high-quality publications to be submitted to the REF at acceptable levels of volume and academic excellence; to lead research projects or research initiatives in the School; to secure research funding and third-stream income; and to contribute to the School’s research strategy.

3. To support the management activities of the School and University, and undertake a key role in School or University working groups or committees, as required.

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 Carry out independent research and act as a Principal Investigator or project leader on major research projects. This will involve leading and line-managing the staff including their recruitment, probation, mentoring, performance review and staff development; managing the budget, and taking responsibility for the delivery of the programme.

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

- Evidence of novel or innovative approaches to teaching supervision or assessment, including appropriate uses of technology.

- Sustained high-quality teaching across both undergraduate and postgraduate portfolios, as evidenced by surveys, questionnaires and peer review.

- Evidence of the integration of research, scholarship and professional practice with teaching activities.

- Regular published output of original research, with a significant proportion at international level (referred journal papers, monographs, book chapters, text books).

- Responsible for leading and managing a major research group.

- Sustained success in obtaining competitively awarded research and knowledge exchange grants and contracts, with evidence of leadership in securing such awards (for example, as Principal Investigator).

- A successful track record of completed postgraduate research supervision at MPhil and DPhil level.

- Significant involvement in knowledge creation and transfer in conjunction with partner organisations in industry, commerce, government or NGOs. This could be in the form of externally funded research, knowledge exchange and/or consultancy.
▪ Evidence of external profile, such as membership of professional body, editorial board or similar.

▪ Successful prosecution of a major task which facilitates School or organisational unit performance or business.

▪ Evidence of a capacity to contribute creatively and constructively to the management of School business.

▪ Evidence of successful management of more junior and/or support staff where such opportunities exist.

▪ Responsible and effective involvement in the broader arena of the School and/or University including, where appropriate, a role providing support, pastoral care and guidance to students or colleagues.

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. Excellent interpersonal skills, with the proven ability to engage with students using a variety of different methods.

3. Significant experience of high-quality teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate level.

4. Experience of successful curriculum design or re-design.

5. Ability to lead and manage a major research programme.

6. Track record of significant and high-quality publications in reputable journals and other appropriate media of similar standing.

7. Successful track record of generating research and knowledge exchange income, and the translation of research results into practice.

8. Significant experience of supervising postgraduate students.

9. An emerging international reputation in the field of study.

10. Evidence of proactive contribution to School and/or University.

11. Excellent presentation skills, with the proven ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.

12. Leadership and people management skills.
13. Ability to exercise a high degree of innovation and creative problem-solving.
14. Excellent organisational and administrative skills.
15. Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.
16. A willingness to participate in support activities beyond normal teaching duties.
17. Excellent IT skills, with the ability to produce high-quality learning support materials.

**ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA**

1. In-depth and cutting-edge knowledge of the applicant’s research field with an aim of establishing a world-leading research programme/laboratory in the field.
2. Commitment to collegiality and inter-disciplinary working.
3. Significant track record of influential publications in reputable journals and developing international reputation in the applicant’s field of research.
4. Demonstrable skill/success in managing a research laboratory/team.