

## THE POST

<b>College:</b>	<b>College of Medicine &amp; Health</b>
<b>Post:</b>	<b>Postdoctoral Research Fellowship / Independent Research Fellow in Cell Biology and/or Experimental Medicine</b>
<b>Reference No:</b>	<b>P01264</b>
<b>Grade:</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>HERA:</b>	<b>RFEL</b>
<b>Reporting To:</b>	<b>Pro Vice Chancellor (PVC) or nominee</b>
<b>Responsible For:</b>	<b>1 x Research Assistant</b>

We have funded fellowships available starting from 1 August 2019 on a four year fixed term basis. These prestigious fellowships are designed to enable individuals to progress from Postdoctoral Research Fellows to Independent Research Fellow. Each post is supported by a Research Assistant for 2.5 years, consumables and travel funding.

**The application process will comprise: submission of a project idea; participation in a Fellowship Day to be held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019; a formal panel interview and presentation for shortlisted candidates, either as part of the Fellowship Day or on a later date to be confirmed.**

Reimbursement of travel expenses from within the UK will be made to qualifying individuals (see our Expenses guidance [here](#)). As we are unable to offer reimbursement for travel from outside of the UK, the facility to Skype in to the Fellowship Day will be available for any non-UK based applicants unable to attend in person.

### **Job Description**

#### **Main purpose of the job:**

The University of Exeter Medical School is renowned for its world leading diabetes research <http://www.exeter.ac.uk/diabetes/> which is led by Professor Andrew Hattersley, FRS, a world renowned leader in the field who has published >600 original articles in leading journals such as Nature, Nature Genetics, the New England Journal of Medicine and the Lancet and is a Reuters highly cited scientist (top 1% for citations in field). Hattersley's research excellence has been recognised by over 50 international and national awards and prizes. He was elected Fellow of the Royal Society in 2010, and made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 2017.

Diabetes affects 400 million people worldwide and consumes 10% of the NHS budget. Diabetes research in Exeter has made transformational changes in the understanding of the causes of diabetes, immune subtypes, complications of diabetes and the treatment of specific subtypes; many of these have changed not only scientific thinking but also patient care throughout the world.

Following a recent major award, this funding will provide a step change in our capabilities to respond to this diabetes challenge by the appointment of world-class academics in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence, Immunology and Cell biology. To improve diabetes clinical care, we are seeking to combine these novel approaches, tools and techniques with Exeter's current expertise and distinctive patient resources. The delivery of scientific advances will be facilitated by the state-of-the-art sequencing and imaging equipment

and increase in high-performance computing capability from combined University and external funding support. Implementation of new solutions will be enhanced by working with our many commercial partners.

Through the funding, we have opportunities for talented early career researchers to join our Diabetes Centre of Excellence.

As an Independent Research Fellow, you will bring your own innovative research ideas and will implement and lead this research, and contribute to the growth and development of the world-class Diabetes Research Centre of Excellence. You will receive academic support and mentorship from established leading diabetes researchers to help you achieve this.

**With a diabetes theme, your own research idea will align with one of the following areas: Bayesian Statistics, Artificial Intelligence, Immunology or Cell Biology.**

**Main duties and accountabilities:**

1. To undertake research as appropriate to the field of study. The responsibilities may include all or some of the following:
  - Acting as principal investigator on research projects;
  - Developing research objectives, projects and proposals;
  - Conducting individual or collaborative research projects;
  - Identifying sources of funding and contributing to the process of securing funds;
  - Extending, transforming and applying knowledge acquired from scholarship to research and appropriate external activities;
  - Writing or contributing to publications or disseminating research findings using media appropriate to the discipline;
  - Making presentations at conferences or exhibiting work in other appropriate events;
  - Assessing, interpreting and evaluating outcomes of research;
  - Developing new concepts and ideas to extend intellectual understanding;
  - Resolving problems of meeting research objectives and deadlines;
  - Developing ideas for generating income and promoting research area;
  - Developing ideas for application of research outcomes;
  - Deciding on /following research programmes and methodologies, often in collaboration with colleagues and sometimes subject to the approval of the head of the research programme on fundamental issues.
2. To supervise postgraduate research students and enthuse undergraduate students about research.
3. To act as research team leader including:
  - Mentoring colleagues with less experience and advising on their professional development;
  - Coaching and supporting colleagues in developing their research techniques;
  - Supervising the work of others, for example in research teams or projects;
  - Developing productive working relationships with other members of staff;
  - Co-ordinating the work of colleagues to ensure equitable access to resources and facilities;
  - Dealing with standard problems and help colleagues to resolve their concerns about progress in research.
4. To routinely communicate complex and conceptual ideas to those with limited knowledge as well as to peers using high level skills and a range of media and to present the results of scientific research to sponsors and at conferences.
5. As determined by the nature of the project and with support from research mentors, to plan, co-ordinate and implement research programme activity including:
  - Managing the use of research resources and ensuring that effective use is made of them;
  - Monitoring and reporting on the use of research budgets;
  - Helping to plan and implement commercial and consultancy activities;
  - Where appropriate, to plan and manage own consultancy assignments.

## **Person Specification**

<b>Competency</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
Attainments/Qualifications	PhD or equivalent qualification/experience in a related field of study.	Be a nationally recognised authority in the subject area.
Skills and Understanding	Possess sufficient specialist knowledge in the discipline to develop/follow research programmes and methodologies. Record of research output in high quality publications. Evidence of potential for research independence	
Prior Experience	Experience of successfully undertaking research projects and supervising junior researchers.	Experience of undergraduate /postgraduate teaching and supervision. Experience of acting as principal investigator on research projects.
Behavioural Characteristics	Excellent written and verbal communication skills. Able to communicate complex and conceptual ideas to a range of groups. Evidence of the ability to collaborate actively within the Institution and externally to complete research projects and advance thinking. Able to participate in and develop external networks. Able to balance the pressures of research, administrative demands and competing deadlines.	Able to identify sources of funding, generate income, obtain consultancy projects, or build relationships for future activities.

This job description summarises the main duties and accountabilities of the post and is not comprehensive: the post-holder may be required to undertake other duties of similar level and responsibility.

### **Informal Enquiries**

If this opportunity is of interest we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact Starr Young, Recruitment Lead, to arrange an informal discussion in the first instance at [diabetescareers@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:diabetescareers@exeter.ac.uk)

### **Terms & Conditions**

Our Terms and Conditions of Employment can be viewed [here](#).

### **Further Information**

Please see our [website](#) for further information on working at the University of Exeter.