



Assistant Professor (Research) in in Drug Target Validation: Junior Research Fellowship (3 posts)

Overview

Reference	016153
Department	Department of Chemistry / Department of Biosciences
Location	Durham City
Grade	Grade 7
Salary Range	£33,199 - £35,210 per annum
Contract	Full Time & Fixed Term (36 months)
Opening Date	05 September 2018
Closing Date	05 October 2018 at midday

Durham University

Durham University is one of the world's top universities with strengths across the Arts and Humanities, Sciences and Social Sciences. We are home to some of the most talented scholars and researchers from around the world who are tackling global issues and making a difference to people's lives.

The University sits in a beautiful historic city where it shares ownership of a UNESCO World Heritage Site with Durham Cathedral, the greatest Romanesque building in Western Europe. A collegiate University, Durham recruits outstanding students from across the world and offers an unmatched wider student experience.

Less than 3 hours north of London, and an hour and a half south of Edinburgh, County Durham is a region steeped in history and natural beauty. The Durham Dales, including the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, are home to breathtaking scenery and attractions. Durham offers an excellent choice of city, suburban and rural residential locations. The University provides a range of benefits including pension and childcare benefits and the University's Relocation Manager can assist with potential schooling requirements.

Durham University seeks to promote and maintain an inclusive and supportive environment for work and study that assists all members of our University community to reach their full potential. Diversity brings strength and we welcome applications from across the international, national and regional communities that we work with and serve.

The Department

The Departments of Chemistry (<https://www.dur.ac.uk/chemistry/>) and Biosciences (<https://www.dur.ac.uk/biosciences/>) are two of the very best in the UK. Both have an outstanding reputation for excellence in teaching, research and engagement with external stake holders. For example, in REF2014 both departments were ranked in the top 10 for

impact, a measure of how research carried out makes a difference in terms of the economy and society. Both departments are holders of an Athena Swan Bronze award.

The Role

Three Junior Research Fellowships are available as part of a recently funded (£7.8M) GCRF Global Network in Neglected Tropical Diseases. This Network brings together multidisciplinary researchers at 14 global institutions across the UK, South America and South Asia to identify and validate new drug targets for leishmaniasis and Chagas disease (see - <https://www.dur.ac.uk/news/newsitem/?itemno=31985>).

The Fellowships are aimed at early-career researchers with some postdoctoral experience (e.g. between 2-5 years) who wish to undertake a period of supported, independent research that complements ongoing work at Durham University. The Fellows' research will also align with the research aims of the Network - to identify and validate new drug targets for leishmaniasis and Chagas disease. You must identify a Durham mentor (see <https://ntd-network.org> for list of available sponsors) who will provide scientific guidance during the application process and throughout your fellowship. The research sponsor will guarantee you access to space and resources to carry out your research. Fellows will also be expected to forge links with global partners within the Network and help it to meet its aims (see <https://ntd-network.org>). Research in the network spans scientific disciplines in molecular and cellular parasitology, chemical biology, biochemistry and biophysics.

The Research Fellowships are for 3 years and come with generous support for consumables, travel and access to a small equipment fund.

Please note – An additional two Junior Research Fellowships within the NTD network are available based at the Centre for Immunology & Infection (CII), Department of Biology, or York Structural Biology Laboratory, Department of Chemistry, University of York. See <https://ntd-network.org> for information on the sponsors at York that include Professors Jeremy Mottram, Paul Kaye, Tony Wilkinson, Jon Timmis and Dr Pegine Walrad. For more information on the positions at York please email - ntd.network@durham.ac.uk

Responsibilities:

1. Conduct and publish individual and collaborative research to support Network programme.
2. Integrate into the multinational, multidisciplinary Network
3. Contribute and/or lead in the preparation of funding proposals in support of Network aims.
4. Prepare and present reports on research progress and outcomes to bodies overseeing Network research, e.g. the International Advisory Board.
5. Communicate complex information and material of a specialist or highly technical nature, including contributions to outreach and the Network website and social media.
7. Continually update and expand research knowledge and understanding in the broad field.
8. Supervise under- and post-graduate students, helping develop research skills.
9. Could be expected to contribute to the teaching and learning programmes.

10. May be required to attend meetings and participate in working groups within the Department, the Faculty and the University.
11. Ensure compliance with health and safety in all aspects of work.
12. Work within budget constraints.

This post is considered to be independent and research and will be focused on research on the University's 'Research Track' career path, which provides clearly defined opportunities for progression against defined criteria.

Successful applicants will, ideally, be in post by January 2019.

The Requirements

Applicants must demonstrate research excellence in the fields of chemistry and / or bioscience, with the ability to fully engage in the services, citizenship and values of the University.

The University provides a working, research and teaching environment which is inclusive and welcoming and where everyone is treated fairly with dignity and respect. Candidates will be expected to demonstrate these key principles as part of the assessment process.

Candidates will have recently completed or be concluding their PhD and while they may have limited direct experience of the requirements for the post, they must outline their experience, skills and achievements to date which demonstrate that they meet or that they have the potential to achieve the essential criteria.

Research

Candidates must have capacity for and be progressing towards the independent development of internationally excellent research that produces high-quality outcomes, including some work that is recognised as world class.

The essential research criteria for this post are:

Essential Research Criteria	Grade 7
1. Qualifications	A good first degree and a PhD in chemistry, biosciences or a related subject.
2. Outputs	Evidence of high quality outputs, some of which have the potential to be (or are) world class [Candidates are asked to submit [two] pieces of work as detailed below]
3. Personal Research Plan	A personal research plan which supports and enhances the NTD networks and relevant department's research strategy

The desirable research criteria for this post (for which candidates should provide evidence of some if not all criteria) are:

Desirable Research Criteria	Grade 7
A. Income generation	Experience, skills and/or achievements that demonstrate (experience of or) the potential to develop successful research project proposals
B. PhD supervision	Experience, skills and/or achievements that demonstrate (experience of or) the potential to provide excellent supervision for PhD students
C. Research Leadership Candidates may choose to include information about research group leadership, mentoring of research colleagues, invitations to and engagement with external events, and/or involvement with international networks or projects.	Experience, skills and/or achievements that demonstrate (experience of or) the potential to contribute to the leadership of research groups and the mentoring of early career researchers
D. Research impact	Experiences, skills and/or achievements that demonstrate (experience of or) the potential to evidence research impact beyond the institution

Services, Citizenship and Values

This post is focused on research but candidates may be required to actively engage in the administrative requirements of the Department, notably related to their research, and/or the research and research environment of the department.

Candidates must positively contribute to fostering a collegial environment; as well as demonstrating their commitment to equality diversity and inclusion.

The essential services, citizenship and values criteria for this role are:

Essential Services, Citizenship and Values Criteria	Grade 7
1. Collegial Contribution Candidates may choose to evidence departmental or university committee roles, mentoring	Experience, skills and/or achievements that demonstrate (experience of or) the potential to participate in the collegial/administrative activities of an academic department notably related to their research and/or the research and research environment of the department

activity, engagement with widening participation and membership, involvement with equality and diversity initiatives or engagement with external bodies.	
2. Communication	Candidates must have excellent oral and written communication skills with the ability to engage with a range of students and colleagues across a variety of forums.

The desirable services, citizenship and values criteria for this role are:

Desirable Services, Citizenship and Values Criteria	Grade 7
E. Leadership	Experience, skills and/or achievements that demonstrate (experience of or) the potential to engage in the administrative functioning of the candidate's academic department and/or discipline including any leadership or other responsibilities in an academic/research context

How to Apply

For informal enquiries please contact ntd.network@durham.ac.uk. All enquiries will be treated in the strictest confidence.

We prefer to receive applications online via the Durham University Vacancies Site.
<https://www.dur.ac.uk/jobs/>

Applications are particularly welcome from women and black and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts in the University.

What to Submit

All applicants are asked to submit:

- A CV (max. 3 pages) and covering letter (max. 2 pages) which details your experience, strengths and potential in the requirements set out above;
- 2 page research outline that clearly states how the programme of work you wish to develop: a) aligns with the key aims of the NTD Network; and b) how you would use the fellowship to build an independent research career
- PDFs of two significant pieces of work which you have been involved with and an explanation of your input.

Referees

You should provide details of 3 academic/research referees and the details of your current line manager so that we may seek an employment reference (if they are not listed as an academic referee). Please note:

- We shall seek the academic/research references during the application process. Academic/research referees should not (if possible) include your PhD supervisor(s) and a majority should be from a University other than your own. We would ask that you alert your academic/research referees to this application as soon as possible so that we can quickly obtain references should you be progressed to the long list stage. Please note that it is our usual practice to provide a copy of your CV to your referee. If you do not consent to us sending your CV to your referees or if you do not wish (some or all) of your referees to be approached during the recruitment process; you must clearly indicate this to us at the time of your application.
- Academic/research references sought for long-listed candidates may be made available to the panel during the shortlisting process.
- We will seek a reference from your current line-manager if we make you an offer of employment (albeit you may have also nominated your line manager as an academic referee). Please clearly indicate which referee is your current line-manager and please let us know if we should only approach them once an offer has been made.

Next Steps

All applications will be considered.

The assessment for the post will include application, interview and presentation. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for interview and assessment in October 2018.