Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in the Division of Biomedical and Life Sciences

We wish to appoint a Lecturer/Senior Lecturer to join the Division of Biomedical and Life Sciences (BLS) as we continue to expand in numbers and grow our international profile.

You should be able to demonstrate a high quality research profile/trajectory and an accompanying set of high quality publications in refereed journals. You should also have clear plans to develop and maintain your research programme into the future in a way that complements current research activities in BLS and the Faculty of Health and Medicine (FHM). Current activities include, but are not limited to, infectious diseases, immunology, ageing, cancer biology, and neurodegenerative diseases. Ideally you would bring additional expertise to one or more of our research groupings but we are happy to consider you if you have expertise in any area of biomedical science. We would expect you to make a strong contribution to future research assessment exercises and to demonstrate a sustained impact of your research outside of academia.

We would also expect you to supervise research staff and students effectively, and have the ability to relate to, motivate, and teach students (undergraduate and postgraduate) and to carry out pastoral support.

Faculty of Health and Medicine

FHM comprises three departments: BLS together with colleagues in Lancaster Medical School and the Division of Health Research. The mission of FHM is to maximize opportunities for growth in research and teaching in relevant disciplines, and to provide a clear University focus for collaborations with the NHS and other national and international health agencies. FHM has a strong interdisciplinary ethos, and BLS itself has links not only within the faculty but to the Departments of Chemistry, Physics, Engineering and Lancaster Environment Centre in the Faculty of Science and Technology.

Biomedical and Life Sciences

Over the last 10 years BLS at Lancaster has expanded to include 32 members of academic staff, 2 teaching fellows/senior associates, 6 administrative staff, 10 research technicians and 3 teaching technicians. The underpinning research focus within BLS covers fundamental molecular and cellular aspects of human disease. In the 2014 REF exercise BLS staff were returned to UoA 3 ‘Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing, and Pharmacy’. Within this unit of assessment, we were ranked joint first with regard to ‘research environment’ and had an ‘intensity-weighted’ ranking of 3rd (out of 94 submissions). Institutionally, Lancaster is ranked 13th for the percentage of world-leading research out of the 128 institutions listed in REF 2014 and 18th in the UK overall.

BLS has well equipped research laboratories. Equipment that is currently available to support research in the Division includes confocal and DeltaVision microscopes, scanning and transmission electron microscopes, an ion trap mass spectrometer with online nanoflow HPLC for proteomics and metabolomics, flow cytometer, variable mode fluorescent imager, GC-MS, real time PCR, HPLC and protein purification equipment, along with insectaries, facilities for radioisotope work, and tissue culture laboratories, including facilities to work with pathogens at containment category level III.
Additional relevant equipment is available (subject to agreement) in the Department of Chemistry. Our research excellence underpins the provision of a Masters programme in Biomedicine (taught) and in Biomedical Sciences (MSc by Research) along with a vibrant community of PhD students. BLS is also responsible for a portfolio of biology based undergraduate degree schemes including the Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS) accredited BSc in Biomedical Science.

Other Divisions within FHM

The Division of Health Research (DHR) has a wide-ranging programme of applied public health and health care research, much of which involves collaboration with colleagues in NHS Trusts and elsewhere. Major research themes include: public health and health inequalities; end of life care; disability (including intellectual disabilities); mental health; and social care policy and practice. The Division comprises over 100 staff. It has over 250 research students registered for full-time and part-time postgraduate study on taught doctorate programmes, together with almost 70 trainees registered for the Doctorate in Clinical Psychology. The Division is also host to: Health R&DNoW, a Department of Health funded research & development support unit for the North West; the International Observatory on End of Life Care; the Spectrum Centre for Mental Health Research; the Centre for Disability Research; the Health Economics at Lancaster group; and is a major part of the Centre for Ageing Research together with BLS staff.

Lancaster Medical School (LMS) is responsible for the delivery of an independent GMC approved undergraduate medical programme. Hospital clinical placements are mainly in the University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay Foundation Trust with some placements with Cumbria Partnership and Blackpool Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust. Community placements are in GP surgeries in North Lancashire and South Cumbria. The Medical School also includes CHICAS (Combining Health Information, Computation and Statistics), a unit which has many established collaborations with clinicians, biomedical and health scientists locally, nationally and internationally. Current research interests within CHICAS include: real-time disease surveillance; environmental exposure measurement; tropical disease prevalence mapping and infectious disease modelling in human and veterinary epidemiology. Other academic staff within LMS have research interests which complement those in BLS including genome damage and bone pathology; social and ethical aspects of health and medicine and medical education.

Other Information

BLS is a welcoming department with a strong collegiate ethos and family-friendly approach. We are very happy to consider flexible working arrangements, and do our best to accommodate them. We operate an “open door” policy with each other and towards students, have regular staff meetings where we discuss operational and policy matters, and organise a variety of social events and away-days through the year. If applicable, we will assist in the relocation of your laboratory to Lancaster. We will also provide relocation expenses of up to 1/12th of your starting salary (moving house, solicitor’s fees, rent and similar).

Informal enquiries, and pre-application visits, are very welcome. Please contact one of the following:

- Professor Paul Bates, Head of Division, (01524) 593718, email: p.bates@lancaster.ac.uk
- Dr Jackie Parry, Deputy Head of Division & Co-Chair of the Faculty's Equality Enhancement Committee, (01524) 593489, email: j.parry@lancaster.ac.uk
- Dr Sarah Allinson, Director of Research, (01524) 593922, email: s.allinson@lancaster.ac.uk