Faculty of Health & Medicine

Lecturer, Senior Lecturer and Senior Teaching Associate in Biomedical and Life Sciences

The Division of Biomedical and Life Sciences (BLS) within the Faculty of Health and Medicine are looking to appoint to three posts: a Senior Teaching Associate, a Lecturer in Infection Biology and a Senior Lecturer in Neuroscience. All posts will be appointed on an indefinite basis.

We are a growing, innovative and vibrant Division, whose guiding principle is to deliver excellence in biomedical teaching and research. The Division has a track record of substantial funding and publication success across our research areas. These include, but are not limited to, infectious diseases, parasitology, virology, immunology, neurodegeneration, mental health, ageing and cancer biology. Our highly ranked degree programmes in the areas of biology, biomedicine and biochemistry involve the delivery of research-led teaching and learning to 500+ undergraduate students and a growing population of research and taught postgraduate students.

We are looking for dynamic individuals to join us and become a part of the intellectual and collective life of the Division. In return, we can offer you a friendly research and teaching environment that strongly supports the individual needs of each employee and actively promotes a healthy work-life balance. The Faculty is committed to family-friendly and flexible working policies and has held a Silver Athena SWAN award since 2014 in recognition of its good employment practice undertaken to address gender equality in higher education and research.

For the Teaching and Research posts, 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). We would expect you to make a strong contribution to future research assessment exercises and demonstrate a sustained impact of your research outside of academia, and to supervise research staff and students effectively.

Candidates for all posts (Lecturer, Senior Lecturer and Senior Teaching Associate) should have the ability to relate to, motivate, and teach students (undergraduate and postgraduate) and provide pastoral support.

Faculty of Health and Medicine

The Faculty comprises of BLS, Lancaster Medical School (LMS) and the Division of Health Research (DHR). 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 also 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 30 members of academic staff, 3 teaching fellows/senior associates, 6 administrative staff and 10 research and teaching technicians. The underpinning research focus within BLS covers fundamental molecular and cellular aspects of human disease. In REF2014 and REF2021, BLS staff were returned to UoA3 ‘Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy’ alongside colleagues from the Medical School and DHR. In 2014, we were ranked joint first with regard to ‘research environment’ and had an ‘intensity-weighted’ ranking of 3rd (out of 94 submissions).

BLS has well equipped research laboratories. Equipment currently available to support research in the Division includes three confocal microscopes, a DeltaVision Deconvolution microscope and a fluorescence microscope. We also have scanning and transmission electron microscopes, an ion trap mass spectrometer with online nanoflow HPLC for proteomics and metabolomics, three flow cytometers (including one dedicated cell sorter), variable mode fluorescent imager, GC-MS, real time PCR, HPLC and protein purification equipment, along with insectaries, radiation source and 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 over 70 trainees registered for the Doctorate in Clinical Psychology. DHR 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 Sports and Exercise Science (SaES) and CHICAS (Combining Health Information, Computation and Statistics). The SaES degree is one of the first in the UK to be delivered by a medical school and explores the science behind human performance in sports, exercise and health. Colleagues in CHICAS have collaborations with clinicians, biomedical and health scientists locally, nationally and internationally, and current research interests 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 that 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) if moving within the UK or 1/8th of your starting salary if moving from overseas.

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

- Dr Paul McKean, Head of Division, email: p.mckean@lancaster.ac.uk
- Dr Sarah Allinson, Deputy Head of Division, email: s.allinson@lancaster.ac.uk
- Professor Paul O’Shea, Director of Research, email: p.oshea1@lancaster.ac.uk
- Dr Fiona Benson, Director of Teaching, email: f.benson@lancaster.ac.uk