

## THE POST

**College:** College of Life and Environmental Sciences <http://lifesciences.exeter.ac.uk/>

**Post:** Postdoctoral Research Fellow

**Reference No:** P50321

**Grade:** F

**HERA:** RFEL

**Reporting To:** Chris Bass

**Responsible For:** part-time technician

The above full-time post is available from 1 March 2017 to 31 December 2020 in the College of Life and Environmental Sciences.

### Job Description

#### Main purpose of the job:

The fellow will support and independently deliver objectives on an ERC funded project entitled 'Understanding and exploiting the P450 insect resistome'. This will involve the design and execution of experiments to investigate the evolution of insect resistance to xenobiotics. A range of molecular and bioinformatic approaches will be used including analysis of next-gen sequencing data, PCR, QPCR, in vitro and in vivo expression of candidate genes and biochemical assays. The post-holder will also contribute to other activities in the Bass lab and act as the day-to-day line manager of a 0.6 FTE technician.

#### 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 contribute to teaching and learning programmes in the School and to supervise postgraduate research students.
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 at the direction of the PI, 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.

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. Please visit the Human Resources website to view the Research Fellow role profiles.

### **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.	Possess in depth knowledge of insect molecular biology, ideally in relation to xenobiotic metabolism.
Prior Experience	Experience of managing research projects. Experienced in the majority of approaches required for the role including standard molecular and biochemical skills. The candidate must have basic bioinformatic skills.	Experience of undergraduate /postgraduate teaching and supervision. Experience of acting as a principal investigator on research projects. Experience in analysing RNAseq, DNAseq, WGBS. Experience in functional expression of candidate genes <i>in vitro</i> (in insect cell lines or <i>E. coli</i> ) and <i>in vivo</i> (expression in <i>Drosophila</i> ).
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	Able to identify sources of funding, generate income, obtain consultancy projects, or build relationships for future activities.

	<p>advance thinking.  Able to participate in and develop external networks.  Able to balance the pressures of research, administrative demands and competing deadlines.</p>	
Circumstances		

### **Informal Enquiries**

Before submitting an application you may wish to discuss the post further by contacting Chris Bass, Professor of Applied Entomology, by email [c.bass@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:c.bass@exeter.ac.uk).

### **Additional Information Relating to the Post**

#### **Salary**

Salary will be circa £33,943 per annum subject to knowledge, skills and experience.

An increment will be payable on 1 August each year until the top of the scale is reached (subject to being in post for 6 months and satisfactory performance). The scale will be subject to a cost of living review each year.

#### **Hours of work**

Full time appointments are contracted to work a 36.5 hour week, over five days, to suit the requirements of the College, as notified by the College Dean. The hours of part-time staff are specified in the letter of appointment.

#### **Annual Leave**

The annual leave entitlement for full-time appointments is 41 days per calendar year (pro rata for part-time appointments). For further information see our website <http://www.admin.ex.ac.uk/personnel/leave.shtml>.

#### **Probationary Period**

The appointment will normally be subject to a probationary period of one year.

#### **Insurance**

It is a condition of this appointment that during the period of the contract you are registered with the General Medical Council and that you are a member of a medical defence society or carry some similar form of insurance cover. It is also a condition of this appointment that you hold an honorary contract with (name of Trust).

#### **Appraisals**

In line with best practice your appraisal will be carried out by the University with input from your Trust.

#### **References & Medical Clearance**

All appointments are subject to satisfactory reference and medical checks and individuals will be required to complete a medical assessment form before appointment is confirmed. Applicants should note that the University normally contacts referees for short-listed applicants without further advice to applicants. When advising of referees, if they are resident overseas, please ensure you supply fax numbers and/or email addresses enabling us to contact them (if necessary) without delay.

#### **Right to Work in the United Kingdom**

We welcome all applicants and the diversity they bring. However, the nature of this role, the salary and the qualifications required, mean that immigration legislation will not allow the University to apply for a sponsorship certificate for this post. We strongly recommend that applicants that are non EEA nationals consult the Right to Work rules on the Home Office website at: [www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk).

In particular you are encouraged to undertake a self assessment of your eligibility to work in the UK using the link to [www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/pointscalculator](http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/pointscalculator).

#### **Terms & Conditions**

The Terms and Conditions of Employment can be viewed on line by visiting <http://www.exeter.ac.uk/staff/employment/conditions/terms/>

### **Pensions**

Membership of the Universities' Superannuation Scheme (USS) is automatic provided that you meet the qualifying criteria for membership. For details on the scheme please go to the <https://forthefuture.uss.co.uk>. Staff automatically become members and employee contributions will be taken from your pay unless you opt out in accordance with the current rules of the scheme. More information about the USS scheme can be found at [www.uss.co.uk/members](http://www.uss.co.uk/members). The University, as your employer, contributes such sums as will be required to maintain the full benefits of the scheme. You may opt out of the scheme and if you wish to do so, you should contact the Pensions and Reward Advisor, Mrs Alison Rose (01392 723088/email [a.j.rose@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:a.j.rose@exeter.ac.uk)) for further information.

### **Relocation**

You may be able to claim relocation expenses in accordance with the University's Relocation Assistance Scheme. The maximum allowance that you can reclaim under the Relocation Assistance Scheme, if eligible, is 10% of salary.

### **Short-listing Information**

We will acknowledge your application by email. The University of Exeter recognises the time and effort taken to apply for a position and will contact you by email to inform you of results of shortlisting

### **Application Procedure and Interview Information**

The closing date for completed applications is **20<sup>th</sup> January 2017**.

### **Data Protection Act (1998)**

The information contained within your application is being requested to enable the University to make employment decisions and meet statutory obligations. Any information provided to the University in this context will be treated confidentially and used only by manager(s), member of the University, Human Resources, Superannuation and Payroll during the course of your employment. Where the application relates to a post which is externally funded this information may be passed onto the relevant funding body.