

Research Role Profile

Job Title:	Research Fellow in RNA biology/ Virology
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Responsible to:	Nicolas Locker
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Responsible for:	Not applicable
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Job Summary and Purpose:
To undertake research in accordance with the specified research project(s) under the supervision of the principal investigator.

Main Responsibilities/Activities
<p>To undertake a range of research activities within a specified research area, assuming responsibility for specific areas of projects and making use of new research techniques and methods, in consultation with the research award holder or supervisor. This may include fieldwork, interviews, laboratory experimentation, critical evaluation and interpretation, computer-based data analysis and evaluation or library research.</p> <p>Using initiative and creativity to identify areas for research develop new research methods and extend the research portfolio. Analysing and interpreting results of own research. Write up results and prepare papers for submission to appropriate journals and conferences, and other outputs as required and/or appropriate. Attend appropriate conferences for the purpose of disseminating research results of personal development. The post holder may also contribute to writing bids for research grants and will contribute to collaborative decision making with colleagues in areas of research.</p> <p>Continually to update knowledge and develop skills, and translate knowledge of advances in the area into research activity.</p> <p>To plan and manage own research activity in collaboration with others. To carry out administrative tasks associated with specified research funding, for example risk assessment of research activities, organisation of project meetings and documentation. Implementation of procedures required to ensure accurate and timely formal reporting and financial control.</p> <p>To contribute to teaching in the Faculty by carrying out student supervision and/or demonstrating within the post holder's area of expertise and under the direct guidance of a member of departmental academic staff, as appropriate.</p> <p>The post holder may occasionally be required to supervise more junior research staff.</p>

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Person Specification

The post holder must have:

A doctoral degree in a relevant discipline (although individuals who have almost completed a doctoral degree may be appointed). Consideration may also be given to individuals who do not hold a doctoral degree but have required skills based on a number of years' experience in specified / relevant fields

The post holder will have authority over some aspects of project work and must be capable of providing academic judgement, offering original and creative thoughts and be able to interpret and analyse results.

Relationships and Contacts

Direct responsibility to the principal investigator or academic supervisor. The post holder may be asked to serve on a relevant Faculty committee. There may be additional reporting and liaison responsibilities to external funding bodies or sponsors. The post holder may work on original research tasks with colleagues in other institutions.

Special Requirements

To be available to participate in fieldwork as required by the specified research project

All staff are expected to:

- Positively support equality of opportunity and equity of treatment to colleagues and students in accordance with the University of Surrey Equal Opportunities policy.
- Help maintain a safe working environment by:
 - Attending training in Health and Safety requirements as necessary, both on appointment and as changes in duties and techniques demand
 - Following local codes of safe working practices and the University of Surrey Health and Safety Policy
- Undertake such other duties within the scope of the post as may be requested by your Manager.

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Addendum

This document provides additional information relating to both specific aspects of the post/faculty and any post specific person specification criteria. The information contained within this document should always be read in conjunction with the accompanying generic Job Purpose.

Job Title:	Post-doctoral Research Fellow in Virology (Maluquer Lab)
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Background Information/Relationships

A postdoctoral research associate is sought to work at the interface between RNA biology and virology in the Locker laboratory at the University of Surrey. The project aims at understanding better mechanisms at the interface between viruses and stress responses. The main aim is to characterise how viruses regulate translation and stress granules (and other cytoplasmic biocondensates) and how this contribute to the antiviral response. To tackle this challenging and exciting project a combination of sophisticated techniques will be applied: biochemical isolation of stress granules, omics approaches (RNAseq, mass spectrometry), confocal microscopy, immunoprecipitations, viral replication assays and live cell imaging. Collaborators associated with this project are the Ruggieri Lab (Heidelberg). This BBSRC funded position is available until end of 2025. Candidates with experience in RNA biology/cell biology (previous virus work experience is welcome but not necessary) are encouraged to apply. You must have (or expect to obtain shortly) a PhD (or equivalent) in the life sciences and have relevant laboratory experience.

Recent work from the Locker lab:

<https://wires.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/wrna.1741>

<https://journals.biologists.com/jcs/article/135/4/jcs259194/274514/Novel-stress-granule-like-structures-are-induced>

<https://journals.asm.org/doi/10.1128/JVI.01134-21>

Person Specification

This section describes the sum total of knowledge, experience & competence required by the post holder that is necessary for standard acceptable performance in carrying out this role. This is in addition to the criteria contained within the accompanying generic Job Purpose.

Qualifications and Professional Memberships	Essential/ Desirable
BSc in Biomedical Sciences, Virology, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology or a related field	E
PhD in Virology, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology or a related field	E

Technical Competencies (Experience and Knowledge) This section contains the level of competency required to carry out the role (please refer to the competency framework for clarification where needed and the Job Families Booklet).	Essential/ Desirable	Level 1-3
Experience in cell culture and virology including at BSL3(CL3) level.	E	3
Experience in RNA biology and molecular biology	D	2
Experience in confocal microscopy	D	2
Track record of investigating stress granules and stress responses to viruses	E	3

Key Responsibilities

This document is not designed to be a list of all tasks undertaken but an outline record of any faculty/post specific responsibilities (5 to 8 maximum). This should be read in conjunction with those contained within the accompanying

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generic Job Purpose.

1. To undertake research activities within a specified area, assuming responsibility for the experiments and making use of established and new research techniques and methods, in consultation with the supervisor.
2. To use initiative and creativity to identify and develop new areas for research and extend the group's research portfolio.
3. To critically assess and analyse results of own research and that of other colleagues in the group, writing them up for internal assessments and peer-review publications and preparing them for dissemination in international and national conferences and university-based events alike.
4. To offer academic judgement, original and creative thoughts, and mentorship to junior researchers in the group including PhD students
5. To carry out administrative tasks associated with the specified research, including risk assessment of research activities, organisation of project meetings and documentation, arrangement and distribution of laboratory tasks, ordering and financial control.
6. To contribute to teaching in the Faculty (if requested) by carrying out demonstration activities within the post holder's area of expertise and in agreement with the supervisor.

N.B. The above list is not exhaustive.