

Research Role Profile

Job Title:	Research Fellow (1A)
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Responsible to:	Head of research group, or principal investigator
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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	
Job Title:	Research Fellow in Synthetic Biology
<u>Background Information/Relationships</u>	
<p>The post is funded by a Grant from the BBSRC and the ERA-CoBiotech programme of the EU to engineer and characterise microbial communities for the biotransformation of plastic waste PET into molecules with added value as part of the project 'Microbial Integration of Plastics in the Circular Economy (MIPLACE)'. The post involves close collaboration with other research groups that form part of the consortium based in the University of Aachen (Germany), the University of Leipzig (Germany), the University of Valencia (Spain) and the company Soprema (France).</p> <p>The Research Fellow will be in charge of leading research activities for the design and engineering synthetic microbial communities for PET degradation based on robust cooperative microbial interactions. The post will involve molecular biology approaches to modify microorganisms and small-scale bioprocess design. In addition, the post holder will apply different -omics techniques for the global analysis of the communities generated. The job will also involve the liaison with bioinformaticians, metabolic engineers and computational scientists for the modelling of community dynamics. The post will involve travelling to the general assemblies of the consortium taking place twice per year as well as to national and international conferences as required. The post holder will be required to contribute to the regular reporting to the ERA office including project deliverables as well as to the write-up of scientific publications in research articles.</p> <p>Besides excellent molecular biology and microbiology skills, the post holder will need to demonstrate the ability to report the research findings in scientific papers and through presentations to peers at various levels. We expect the post holder to contribute to a vibrant research atmosphere and engage broadly with the work of other team members. The post holder will also contribute to the supervision of research projects carried out by UG, MSc and PhD students in the lab.</p>	
Person Specification	
Qualifications and Professional Memberships	Essential/ Desirable
A Doctoral Degree in the area of molecular biology / biochemistry/ microbiology / synthetic biology	Essential
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
Proven working experience in molecular biology (microbial engineering)	Essential
Experience with -omics approaches (genomics, RNA-seq, etc.)	Essential
Experience working with microbial communities (natural or artificial)	Essential
Bioinformatics, mathematical modelling and programming skills	Desirable

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Track record of publications in scientific journals and presentations to conferences	Desirable
Written and verbal communication skills with an ability to write project deliverables and give presentations on the completed work	Essential
Key Responsibilities	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan and conduct research in the area of synthetic biology and microbial community engineering 2. To present work at scientific meetings and publish work in peer-reviewed journals 3. To assist in the supervision of students including UG, MSc, PhD 4. To contribute to project reporting and write-up of deliverables 5. Continually to update knowledge and develop skills, and translate knowledge of advances in the area into research activity <p>N.B. The above list is not exhaustive</p>	