

Job Title: Associate Professor in Lifestyle Medicine
Salary: £57,696 to £64,914 per annum (pro rata if part-time)
Grade: 9
Department: Diabetes Research Centre
Job Family: Teaching and Research
Hours/Contract: Full time, Permanent
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Job Reference: 10053

Role Purpose

To draw on extensive academic excellence to underpin and carry out activities that align with [the University's strategic themes](#) of 'World Changing Research', 'Research Inspired Education' and 'Our Citizens', together with the University's values.

More specifically, the appointee will lead on the development of, and teaching on, a new distance learning MSc in Lifestyle Medicine and new lifestyle modules for existing courses such as the MSc in Diabetes (50%). The post-holder will also conduct world leading research (40%) in lifestyle based experimental medicine, real world epidemiology or behaviour change as part of the [Leicester Lifestyle Health and Research Group \(LLHRG\)](#) at the Diabetes Research Centre. The remaining 10% of the role will relate to the impact and citizenship activities detailed in the main duties section.

Research Environment

LLHRG conduct research investigating how physical activity, sedentary behaviour, sleep, and nutrition can be used to prevent and manage long-term conditions, such as obesity and diabetes, in multi-ethnic populations. LLHRG are one of the most successful research groups in the country conducting research in this area, **ranking second overall and first for output quality in REF2021** for Unit of Assessment 24 (Sports Science). This success was the foundation of a major **new £14 million investment from Research England** specifically to enable LLHRG to grow their research and impact excellence. This includes recruiting 20 new staff members across academic, teaching, research, community engagement and administrative positions, in addition to 12 new PhD students.

The LLHRG are part of the Diabetes Research Centre (DRC) which sits within the College of Life Sciences and is hosted at the Leicester General Hospital within the wider [Leicester Diabetes Centre](#). The Leicester Diabetes Centre is a unique partnership between University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust and the University of Leicester, providing one of the largest facilities in Europe for conducting first class clinical research and teaching in the prevention and management of long-term conditions. This physical space has facilitated the co-location our growing number of research, academic, teaching, technical, administrative and clinical staff, providing the opportunity to work together as one team to produce high quality, high impact research and teaching.

The DRC has attracted a range of prestigious National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) funded infrastructure and hosts the [NIHR Leicester Biomedical Research Centre](#) and the [NIHR ARC East Midlands](#).





Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research Inspired Education

- Lead the development and delivery of a new distance learning lifestyle medicine MSc and new modules for existing MSc courses within the College of Life Sciences
- Undertake research-led teaching on postgraduate taught courses, incorporating innovative teaching methods and the latest educational concepts
- Contribute to the development, enhancement and achievement of the academic strategy in the DRC, through leading and engaging in activities/projects that drive innovation and have a beneficial impact
- Lead the development, revision and updating of programmes at postgraduate level, ensuring that they are inclusive, embed key skills, and incorporate sustainable development goals
- Lead teaching delivery and assessment to ensure consistent high quality teaching practice, providing timely formative student feedback and assessment for coursework and examinations
- Provide support and contribute to shaping a comprehensive range of student support initiatives at the DRC, College, and/or University level, including, placement support, links with industry, personal tutor support, employability activities/projects and open days support
- Work with students to provide world class teaching and learning opportunities and an excellent student experience, regularly collecting and responding to student feedback
- Demonstrate wider educational impact through contributions to projects or scholarly discourse aimed at enhancing pedagogy or improving student outcomes
- Engage with scholarship and pedagogical research to continuously develop own teaching practice and that of others, leading to improved delivery and outcomes, with due regard for sector best practice

World Changing Research

- Maintain an emergent portfolio of internationally recognised publications that are world-leading in terms of originality, significance and rigour as appropriate to the field or discipline, and which have an impact on society, economy, culture, industry, government, policy or practice
- Engage in research aligned to the LLHRG and enterprise leadership, making significant contributions to promoting and embedding an inclusive and respectful research culture
- Secure sustained external research income on an individual and collaborative basis, as appropriate to the field or discipline
- Provide high quality PGR/PhD/MD supervision and training, contributing to securing funding for postgraduate and early career researchers and increasing PGR recruitment within the subject discipline
- Participate in and lead strategic national and/or international research networks, partnerships and collaborations
- Support the research development of PGRs and colleagues, through mentoring, coaching and training





Our Citizens

- Contribute to initiatives and activities that inform national and international policies and decisions, generating a positive impact beyond the University and making a tangible contribution to society.
- Contribute to the practice or debate around policies or practice, based on research evidence and/or scholarly activity
- Participate in public engagement activities, including authoring articles in non-research publications and online, which raise the external profile of the University and share the benefits of Higher Education and research
- Actively engage with the academic discipline both nationally and internationally, undertaking roles on external committees, reviews and panels and/or contributing to conferences and volunteering initiatives which demonstrate impact beyond the University
- Participate in and undertake leadership roles in DRC, College, and/or University level, contributing to management and administrative processes and committee structures
- Lead and support the recruitment, management and development of staff and students, through coaching, mentoring and supporting recruitment activities

Internal and External Relationships

Develop mutually beneficial, effective relationships across other Schools/Departments in the University and with national and/or international partners, that support and deliver the University strategy.

Represent the University nationally and internationally, including at committees, conferences and meetings.

Work collaboratively with other members of the module delivery team and participate in teaching team meetings.

Coordination with central University offices.

Planning and Organising

Shape the strategic direction in the research area, developing clear long term (many months/years) plans for sustaining and enhancing the research programme.

Long term planning and organisation of the delivery of teaching and assessment.

Participate in the departmental operational planning process, supporting the strategic direction of the DRC and College.

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- Completed PhD in a relevant subject area*
- Expertise that complements or enhances existing strengths within the LLHRG*
- Experience of teaching at postgraduate level, evidenced by a sustained record of excellent student outcomes and progression*





- Evidence of external recognition of teaching practice through positive module evaluation and sustained excellent feedback from students, peer review, and external examiners or external assessors
- Fellowship of the HEA or equivalent accredited teaching qualification, or commitment to gain an accredited teaching qualification on appointment within a set timescale*
- Sustained publication of outputs (commensurate with disciplinary norms) that are internationally recognised and world-leading in terms of originality, significance and rigour in time for REF2029, some with world-leading impact both within and beyond academia*
- Sustained external research income (as Principal investigator or co-investigator), with success in securing external funding that exceeds the discipline benchmark
- Involvement in and leadership of relevant research and professional networks on a national and international level*
- A track record of successful supervision of PGR/PhD/MD students*
- Experience of contributing to the management, development and delivery of postgraduate programmes*
- Demonstrable commitment to continued development of own teaching practice and that of colleagues
- Evidence of leadership and involvement in significant internal and external committees and groups, and engagement with business, community and/or educational partners*

Desirable

- Experience of delivering teaching via distance learning*
- Senior Fellowship of the HEA or equivalent*
- Successful completion of CPD
- Evidence of sustained positive outcomes from incorporating research or professional skills to improve the curriculum
- Evidence of leading and/or contributing to initiatives that have a positive impact on recruitment and student outcomes*

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- High level of proficiency in English, sufficient to undertake research, teaching and administrative activities and to communicate effectively with staff and students*
- Ability to lead, motivate, develop and manage the performance of a team
- Ability to work independently and as part of a multi-disciplinary team
- Excellent interpersonal skills, to develop networks and form collaborations
- Effective presentation skills
- Ability to develop resource material to enhance teaching quality





- Ability to deliver classes using a comprehensive range of delivery methods, including lectures, seminars and tutoring
- Skills in coaching, mentoring and developing others, including students, early career researchers and colleagues
- Skills in pastoral care and motivation of students
- A commitment to the delivery of a high quality service to students
- Ability to lead and manage a team
- Ability to prioritise tasks within agreed work schedules
- Ability to plan, organise, implement and deliver programmes of work
- An awareness and understanding of Equality, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) strategies

Desirable

- Ability to teach classes using distance learning using appropriate e-learning and teaching platforms and the delivery of blended learning*
- Ability to provide support to students via Blackboard

****Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview***

Criminal Declaration

If you become an employee, you must inform your manager immediately, in writing, if you are the subject of any current or future police investigations/legal proceedings, which could result in a criminal offence, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.

NHS Research Governance

Where it is determined that the duties of this post for the purposes of research involve work with the NHS, it is necessary to ensure that the performance of the duties attached to the post are covered by NHS research governance arrangements and the appointee must comply with all such arrangements, including DBS & occupational health clearance.

Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are expected to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We expect all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required.

University Values





Inclusive - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

Inspiring - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

Impactful - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

Equity and Diversity

We believe that equity, diversity and inclusion is integral to a successful modern workplace. By developing and implementing policies and systems that challenge stereotypes across all aspects of our work, we have a culture that recognises and values the diverse contributions of our staff which benefits everyone. Our strong values of inclusivity and equity support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equity, diversity and inclusion.

