

**Job Title:** Leicester British Heart Foundation Centre of Research Excellence Senior Research Associate in Cardiovascular Genomics

**Grade:** 8

**Salary:** £49,559 to £55,755 per annum

**Department:** Cardiovascular Sciences

**Hours/Contract:** Full-time, fixed term contract for 24 months

**Job Family:** Teaching and Research

**Reference:** 11584

### Role Purpose

The Leicester British Heart Foundation Centre of Research Excellence is seeking to appoint a senior research associate who wishes **to lead their own independent research programme in cardiovascular genomics**. This opportunity will provide protected research time and funding. Strong supervision and mentorship will be provided by the Centre investigators. Core members of the Centre's Discovery theme include Professors Sir Nilesh Samani, Matt Bown, Vervan Codd, Martin Tobin, Louise Wain, Dave Adlam, Dr Christopher Nelson and Dr Tom Webb. There are state-of-the art genomics facilities available in the BHF Cardiovascular Research Centre at Glenfield Hospital, Leicester where the post will be located. The Discovery theme members are part of a wider internationally-recognised community of researchers in Leicester undertaking both fundamental and epidemiological genetics research. The diverse interdisciplinary nature of the Centre's researchers and the wider University will provide broad senior and peer support. Prospective candidates are advised to contact the theme leads, Professor Matt Bown ([m.bown@le.ac.uk](mailto:m.bown@le.ac.uk)) and Dr Tom Webb ([tw126@le.ac.uk](mailto:tw126@le.ac.uk)), to discuss the scope and remit of the post.

The Centre's Discovery theme focuses on understanding the mechanisms through which genetic variants affect cardiovascular risk and thereby identify potential new targets for treatments as well as the development of clinically useful cardiovascular prediction tools. Candidates will be expected to have an established track record in one of these areas.

The Discovery theme has unique access to genotyped cohorts that will be made available to the fellows for their research. These include large population biobanks such as the GENVASC and EXCEED studies for population genomics, deeply phenotyped cell biobanks for function genomics, and internationally unique disease progression cohorts such as the UK Aneurysm Growth Study and GeneCAST aortic stenosis cohort.

The post-holder will be a member of the Centre of Research Excellence and be expected to fully contribute to that community. The post-holder will also be expected to draw on academic experience to underpin and carry out activities across a range of areas of academic and university life, aligned with [the University's strategic themes](#) of 'World Changing Research' and 'Our Citizens,' together with the University values.

Our approach to the academic career recognises its plurality and encourages a balance between breadth and specialisation. This is underpinned by the academic career map, which articulates the expectations of academic staff at each stage of their academic career, and clearly establishes what you can do in order to progress your academic career at Leicester.

### Main Duties and Responsibilities



**Research:**

- To design, deliver the research programme to meet key milestones.
- To oversee data governance, quality and analytical outputs from the research programme as appropriate.
- To manage and deliver collaborative research projects
- To apply advanced research skills, novel approaches and expertise
- To contribute to research proposals and to continue or expand the research programme to secure and explore potential funding streams.
- To actively seek opportunities to carry out multi-disciplinary research with other research groups at the University, or stakeholders external to the University.
- To publish research outputs which is assessed as internationally and world leading research as per the University Output Review Policy.
- To disseminate research/results and/or promotion of research group/expertise at national and international conferences and/or across industry.
- To identify opportunities to apply for fellowships and/or project grants.
- To coach and mentor others in area of professional expertise.
- To lead or co-ordinate the work of a small team of staff.
- To provide supervision and support to PhD/MD students.
- Engage in research and enterprise leadership, contributing to promoting and embedding an inclusive and respectful university research culture

**Professional Development:**

- To engage in work and opportunities that support your own professional development.

**Impact and Knowledge Exchange:**

- To disseminate and share expertise through communication and public engagement activities.
- To represent the work of the University in the specific field locally and nationally in appropriate networks and/or in public activities.
- To contribute to research impact

**Leadership and Citizenship:**

- To innovate in an area of engagement activity e.g outreach, widening participation, public debate and awareness at national and/or international level
- To support outreach activities beyond the University

**Internal and External Relationships**



Establish/maintain collaborations with other researchers at the University of Leicester, nationally and internationally.

Participate in School/departmental and university-wide seminar and public engagement activities to stimulate dissemination of information and collaboration.

Disseminate results at national and international conferences.

Build relationships with external bodies to develop the Centre's impact agenda.

## Planning and Organising

Plan and organise own research programme in designated area.

Plan and co-ordinate research with collaborators.

Plan and organise dissemination of information to both highly specialised academics and the lay public.

Plan, organise and submit grant applications for further and supplementary funding.

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

## Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

### Essential

- PhD or significant equivalent/demonstrable experience in an appropriate discipline \*
- Emerging/developing research profile and /or respected nationally/international profile for area of expertise \*
- Evidence of successful collaboration and liaison with external partners where appropriate \*
- Extensive experience of developing and devising models, theories, techniques and methods \*
- Proven track record of delivering research on time
- Experience of managing a budget
- Evidence of contribution to successful grant applications
- Clear forward plans for sustaining and enhancing the research programme\*

### Desirable

- A portfolio of fundable external grant applications, with evidence of success in winning external funding that exceeds the discipline benchmark
- Involvement in relevant research and professional networks and organisations on a national level\*
- Track record of PhD supervision and/or playing an active role in supporting postgraduate research students.
- Experience of project management of a research programme where relevant \*

## Skills, Abilities and Competencies

### Essential

- Proven analytical/technical problem-solving capability\*





- Evidence of developing a theoretical framework to interpret results\*
- Ability to manage and deliver collaborative based research projects\*
- Commitment to Personal Professional Development in subject expertise\*
- Ability to contribute to successfully to securing research funding where applicable
- Evidence of working effectively as part of a team and the ability to work independently
- Evidence of working with, and building relationships, with internal and external stakeholders
- Excellent communication skills – written and verbal\*
- Ability to assess resource requirements, secure and organise resources effectively
- Skills in managing, motivating and supporting colleagues
- Budget/financial planning 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
- A commitment to the delivery of a high-quality service to students

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

## Reason for Fixed Term Contract

The reason for the fixed term contract is stated in section 1.9 in the summary of contractual terms in your contract of employment.

## 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.

## 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.

