

**Job Title: Postdoctoral Research Associate**

**Grade: 7**

**Salary: £34,804 – £40,322 per annum**

**Department: Molecular and Cell Biology**

**Hours/Contract: Full Time**

**Reference: 1505**

## Role Purpose

To pursue the research goals of the sLOLA grant entitled, 'How do RNA-binding proteins control splice site selection?', as determined by the group leader and executive board of the consortium. The appointee will lead and be responsible for a strand of research within the context of this collaborative programme. In addition, the postholder will contribute to the development of the laboratory and co-supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Main Duties and Responsibilities	% Time
<p>The Research Associate will be expected to take a leading role in experimental design and determining the direction of the program in line with reaching the research goals of the research project, developing their independent research and providing guidance to other members of the team. Specifically, the Research Associate will be expected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to develop and carry out an independent original research programme involving single molecule microscopy, cloning and expression in mammalian cells, analysis of expression, cross-linking, proximity labelling and other methods;</li> <li>to become knowledgeable in the background research literature and to maintain familiarity with current research in the field;</li> <li>to plan and carry out the work programme for his/her own research contribution, using methodology and techniques appropriate to this type of research;</li> <li>to facilitate productive operation of the laboratory;</li> <li>to work for periods of up to one month if needed in collaborating laboratories in Glasgow.</li> </ul>	70%
Writing up research findings for dissemination amongst the research team and broader international community	5%
Analysis of data and extrapolation of new themes/ strands in area of research	10%
To take a lead in presenting results at sLOLA collaboration meetings and scientific meetings in the UK and overseas	6%
To participate in general laboratory activities to ensure the efficient functioning of the lab	2%

To adhere to health and safety procedures affecting self and others at all times and to help the lab safety officer enforcing good safety practice in the lab	1%
To assist with the training of new members of the lab, including undergraduate students and work experience trainees.	5%
To act as STEM ambassadors and present their research at annual university-organised events.	1%
<b>Internal and External Relationships</b>	
<p>The appointee will engage with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Academic group leader regarding progress of the project, daily.</li> <li>• Academics, postdocs, postgrads and technicians within the laboratory to liaise on a daily basis regarding availability of equipment and materials, exchange of information, and discussions of research and ideas.</li> <li>• Other members of the sLOLA consortium for critical discussion of the research and exchange of new ideas and approaches that might benefit the research.</li> <li>• Meetings every two months to present and discuss work with the Executive Board of the sLOLA and annually with the external Advisory Board. These meetings will require travelling with other sLOLA members every 4<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> month and may involve an overnight stay.</li> </ul>	
<b>Planning and Organising</b>	
Plan and organise his/her own research activities and to contribute to plans of research students	
<b>Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience</b>	
<p><b>Essential</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High quality first degree and PhD in relevant subject*</li> <li>• Demonstrable high level of activity and engagement in previous research*</li> <li>• Experience in the dissemination of research results for publication in leading journals and presentation at international conferences</li> </ul> <p><b>Desirable</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience in single molecule research</li> <li>• Interest in optics/photonics</li> <li>• Skills in cloning, PCR, cell culture and other standard methods in molecular biology</li> <li>• Knowledge of RNA biochemistry, macromolecular structures and biochemical assays of interactions</li> </ul>	
<b>Skills, Abilities and Competencies</b>	
<p><b>Essential</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent written and oral communication skills</li> <li>• Ability to work independently and as part of a team</li> </ul>	



- Effective interpersonal skills
- Effective planning and organisational skills
- Ability to think creatively and rigorously and to be able to objectively appraise one’s own work
- Excellent technical ability, enabling production of high quality and reproducible results

**Desirable**

- Computer programming, especially Matlab or machine learning.

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

**Criminal Declaration and Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).**

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 office, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.

**VITAL**

The University encourages all staff to live our [VITAL values](#) which are:  
**Valuing People, Innovators, Together, Accountable, Leaders.**

**Equality and Diversity**

We believe that equality, 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 equality 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 equality, diversity and inclusion.

