

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER
PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT
FACULTY OF BIOLOGY, MEDICINE & HEALTH
FBMH TECHNICAL SERVICES
RESEARCH TECHNICIAN
VACANCY REF: BMH-031971

Salary: UoM Grade 5 £33,002 - £33,951 pro rata depending on relevant experience

Hours: 35 hours per week (1 FTE)

Duration: Fixed term for 48 months

Location: Oxford Road

Enquiries about the vacancy, shortlisting and interviews:

Name: Lorraine Schmidt

Email Address: lorraine.schmidt@manchester.ac.uk

Overall Purpose

This role provides specialist technical support to research programmes investigating the vascular mechanisms of dementia and other brain disorders. The postholder will undertake and optimise laboratory experiments, operate and maintain advanced research equipment, support the training of students and junior staff, and contribute to the safe and efficient running of research laboratories. Working closely with researchers, the successful candidate will help generate high-quality data that advances scientific understanding and supports the delivery of internationally recognised research.

Working as part of a wider technical team, the post holder will promote safe working practices, ensure compliance with relevant legislation, and provide guidance to students or junior staff in standard laboratory procedures.

About the Team

The role is based within the Microvascular@Manchester group, which has recently expanded via an industry funded neurovascular collaboration. The group, numbering approximately 25 members employs a broad range of physiological approaches, and comprises several principal investigators, postdoctoral researchers, technical staff, and students.

Key Accountabilities

- Assist with research animal model maintenance and microdissection of arteries

- Perform and optimise experimental protocols of antibody based imaging on confocal and super-resolution microscopy.
- Carry out and assist staff and students with standard experimental protocols. Assist in the supervision of student projects.
- Undertake pressure myography and calcium imaging of small arteries.
- Training of junior technicians and PhD students in laboratory techniques including myography
- Assist staff and students in the operation of laboratory equipment.
- Assist in the smooth running of the laboratories including general housekeeping duties.
- Collate and store accurate records using paper and computer based systems and the preparation of data for inclusion in presentations and publications.
- Contribute to the group's progression by providing feedback and input to experimental design and development. Prepare papers for steering groups and other bodies, present information on research progress and outcomes to bodies supervising research.
- Contribute to decisions affecting the work of the team, contribute to the planning of research projects.
- Attend and contribute to relevant meetings.
- Analyse and interpret the results of own research and generate original ideas based on outcomes.
- Plan own day-to-day research activity within the framework of the agreed programme.
- Assist with monitoring general consumable stock levels and procurement of consumables and equipment. Take delivery of goods and store in accordance with local and statutory guidelines.
- Work in compliance with relevant Health and Safety regulation, Data Protection Act and University policy legislation and regulations, e.g. Human tissue Act, Equality & Diversity, etc.
- Carrying out risk assessments for the preparation and use of reagents, chemicals, equipment and procedures by self and others in your research group.

Person Specification

Essential

- A qualification at QCF level 6 (such as a bachelor's degree) in a relevant biological science subject.

OR

QCF level 2 passes (such as GCSE's) in English and Mathematics and at least one Science subject **and** substantial relevant experience of working in a research laboratory.

- Extensive, relevant and hands on experience of small artery physiology and immunohistochemistry in a laboratory based setting involving dementia research
- Ability to plan, organise and undertake a complex work load with competing priorities without supervision.
- Excellent communication skills (written and oral), demonstrating an ability to deal with a wide range of people, effectively and politely with staff, students and visitors.
- Excellent organisational skills, ability to prioritise a variety of work activities in a busy environment and meet strict deadlines.
- Experience of working in a team environment and independently within a large organisation, demonstrating an ability to be flexible and provide support for colleagues.
- Demonstrates a high level of accuracy and attention to detail.

- Demonstrates numeracy, analytical and problem solving skills with the ability to identify and resolve issues effectively.
- Good computer skills including exposure and use of GraphPad Prism
- Experience in Western Blotting, Immunohistochemistry and PCR.
- Demonstrable commitment to the University's strategy, vision and values.
- Ability to work to a high standard with good reproducibility of results
- Willingness to undertake any necessary training.

Desirable

- Knowledge of and compliance with relevant Health and Safety regulation, the Data Protection Act, Standard Operating Procedures and risk assessments including COSHH risk assessments.
- Experience in the provision of information and guidance to managers, staff and students.
- Higher Education Qualification such as a bachelors or masters degree or Higher National Certificate or Diploma in a relevant science subject.
- Experience of working with Word, Excel and PowerPoint packages. Desirably also with ImageJ and/or IMARIS
- Establish working hours, however a flexible approach to working hours is desirable as some evening and weekend working will be required to monitor the progress of some procedures and experiments.
- Willingness to attend and contribute to research group and staff meetings.

Key Behaviours

One University: A 'One University' approach, whereby we break down silos and work collaboratively towards furthering the University's strategic goals, vision and values.

Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom: Support the University's commitment to securing and actively promoting the importance of free speech and academic freedom within our community.

Service Excellence: Committed to prioritising service excellence and high performance to deliver great people-centred experiences.

Agility: Demonstrate a commitment to agility and continuous improvement by embracing change, championing innovation, and being flexible and forward thinking to adapt.

Sustainability: A sustainable approach that safeguards the University of the future by championing environmental practices, advancing digital capability, and supporting financial stability and philanthropic initiatives.

Inclusion: Support the University's ambition to create an inclusive place to work where every person matters, demonstrating a commitment to non-discriminatory conduct and respect for others, and fostering a University where people feel deeply connected to each other, to Manchester, and to the wider world.

Social Responsibility: Promote and champion the University's social responsibility ambitions to advance social inclusion, prosperous communities, better health, and cultural engagement.