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Appointment of a Research Officer in Cochlear Physiology (1.0 full-time equivalent)

**The role**

At Research Officer level (AC1), staff are expected to be using a range of basic research methods to support research projects across a school or subject area including assisting with dissemination of results. Research Officers are expected to:

* Support the research of others by undertaking basic research by contributing to the planning; preparing, setting up, conducting and recording the outcome of experiments; developing questionnaires and conducting surveys; conducting literature and database searches; co-ordinating information, assessing its value and making recommendations; and administration of smaller project budgets including advice on cost-effective expenditure.
* Undertake experiments using standard techniques and methods and develop the ability to design experiments and methods appropriate to the research project.
* Plan own day-to-day research activity within the framework of the agreed programme, co-ordinating with the work of others.
* Liaise with research colleagues, project partners and support staff on routine matters and to gather or exchange information.
* Deal with problems which may affect research objectives and contribute to decisions affecting the work of the team.
* Analyse and interpret results of own research and generate original ideas based on outcomes.
* May assist on collaborative projects by tracking progress in each institution against grant requirements.
* Write up results of own research and contribute to the production of research reports and publications.
* Assist with dissemination of research output, for example by assisting with the design and development of a website, exhibition or broadcast media programme;
* Prepare and present information/papers on research progress and outcomes to bodies supervising research, e.g. steering groups or the funding body.
* Attend and contribute to meetings including production of minutes.
* Continue to update own subject knowledge and develop research skills.
* Assist in the supervision of student projects and provide guidance to support staff and any research students who may be assisting with the research.
* May contribute to introductory courses including preparing and delivering lectures and marking with guidance or developing others' expertise in the use of research methods and equipment.
* Develop own knowledge of teaching and learning methods.
* Make internal and external contacts to develop knowledge and understanding and form relationships for future collaboration.

**Person specification**

It is expected that the criteria below regarding knowledge and qualifications will be met by the successful candidate.

**Essential**

* MD, PhD in physiology or relevant disciplines, or an equivalent level of professional experience.
* Sufficient, up to date breadth or depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline.
* Some research experience/expertise and developing further skills in and knowledge of research methods and techniques in in vivo surgery and physiology.
* Committed to obtaining a relevant higher degree/professional qualification.
* Understanding of equality of opportunity, academic content and issues relating to student need.
* Competent IT skills.
* Knowledge and practical experience in implementation of 3R regulations. Knowledge of relevant health and safety requirements.

**Desirable**

**•** A record of successful grant applications.

• Experience with anaesthesia and surgery techniques.

**•** MATLAB programming skills. Experience with hardware data acquisition programming.

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* At the Sensory Neuroscience Research Group, School of Applied Sciences, we conduct basic research on hearing. Our approach provides essential insight into the normal workings of the cochlea and the basis for understanding and devising treatments for hearing loss which affects over 11 million people in the UK– one out of every six people. Our extensive worldwide network of collaborators helps to undertake multidisciplinary approach to problems of hearing and hearing restoration. Our research themes are: Physiology and biophysics of the mammalian cochlea with focus on cochlear micromechanics and generation of optoacoustic emissions; Hearing impairment as a consequence of genetic mutation, noise and age-related hearing loss; Development of new types of hearing aid and new ways of drug delivery into the cochlea.
* The appointment is for a fixed term of 24 months because linked to the funding made available by the MRC.
* The appointment is generally made at the bottom of the range dependent upon experience and previous salary.
* The annual leave entitlement is 35 working days, pro rata for proportional (part-time staff). This is in addition to the statutory holidays applicable in England, local discretionary holidays and days when the university is closed in the interests of efficiency.
* Hours – This post is full-time. The nature of the post is such that staff are expected to work such hours as are reasonably necessary in order to fulfil their duties and responsibilities. It would therefore be inappropriate to define the total hours to be worked in any week. A reasonable norm for full-time staff, however, having regard to the contractual position of other senior staff in the institution, would be thirty-seven, although this should not be regarded as a minimum or maximum. Direct teaching responsibility should not exceed eighteen hours in any week or a total of five hundred and fifty hours in the teaching year. This provision will not, however, apply in subject areas where the nature of the curriculum and teaching style make it inappropriate. In such cases, separate arrangements apply. The university has currently identified the following academic areas where teaching methods or modes of delivery make the 18 hour per week limit inappropriate at certain times of the year:
* art and design
* business/management
* health - clinically related subjects
* construction management

The 550-hour annual maximum will not, however, be exceeded except by mutually agreed overtime.

More information about the university and the school can be found by following the links below:

* [Academic departments](https://www.brighton.ac.uk/about-us/contact-us/academic-departments/index.aspx)
* [Research and Enterprise at the University](https://www.brighton.ac.uk/research-and-enterprise/research/index.aspx)
* [Professional services departments](https://www.brighton.ac.uk/about-us/contact-us/professional-services-departments/index.aspx)
* University’s [Strategy 2019 - 2025](https://www.brighton.ac.uk/practical-wisdom/index.aspx)

The University has an attractive range of benefits and you can find more information in the [Working here](https://www.brighton.ac.uk/about-us/working-with-us/jobs/index.aspx) section of our website which includes information on [Equality, diversity and inclusion](https://www.brighton.ac.uk/about-us/working-with-us/jobs/equality-diversity-and-inclusion.aspx) and [Benefits and facilities](https://www.brighton.ac.uk/about-us/working-with-us/jobs/benefits-and-facilities.aspx).

**Job sharing**

This job is not suitable for job sharing.

**Professional development**

The Research Office organises a wide range of workshops covering all aspects of researcher development including research degree supervision, research methodology, writing successful bids for funding, intellectual property and negotiations and contracts. The Research Office also offers a co-ordinated central service to advise and assist university research staff applying for grants from UK Research Councils, the European Commission, the NHS and similar external bodies including advice and guidance on application procedures, regulations, staffing, costing and protection of intellectual property. The Research Office’s website offers a wide range of helpful information on all aspects of research. See <https://www.brighton.ac.uk/research-and-enterprise/enterprise/index.aspx>

Date: 24 October 2023