THE POST

College:	**College of Life and Environmental Sciences**
Post:	**Independent Fellowship in Medical Mycology & Bioinformatics (Postdoctoral Research Fellow)**
Reference No:	**S76970**
Grade:	**F**
HERA:	**RFEL**
Reporting To:	**Prof Gordon Brown**

The above full-time post is available immediately for four years, in the College of Life and Environmental Sciences.

Job Description

The Medical Research Council Centre for Medical Mycology (MRC CMM) at the University of Exeter is seeking to award a four-year Fellowship to a newly qualified postdoctoral researcher (with up to 5 years post-doctoral experience), with the aim of attracting the most promising individual to develop an early independent research career in medical mycology. This Fellowship covers salary and comes with a generous consumable budget (up to £20k per annum).

The successful applicant will be expected to develop their own independent research programme, becoming an independent junior principal investigator (PI). Support and mentoring will be provided from our MRC CMM Directors and other Centre PIs (https://www.exeter.ac.uk/medicalmycology/team/)

This post will focus specifically on Bioinformatics. The post-holder's research programme should combine bioinformatics with 'omics' approaches to address the host or the host-pathogen interface, complementing the research conducted by Dr. Rhys Farrer's team .

The successful applicant will: develop their own independent research programme; collaborate effectively with other members of the MRC CMM; write up their work for publication; present their work at conferences; and contribute to the activities of the Centre (e.g. research, outreach and teaching).

Main duties and accountabilities:

1. To undertake research as appropriate to the field of medical mycology including:

    - Acting as principal investigator on research projects;
    - Developing independent research objectives and proposals;
    - Conducting individual or collaborative research projects;
    - Identifying sources of funding and contributing to the process of securing funds;
    - Extending, transforming and applying knowledge acquired from scholarship to research and appropriate external activities;
    - Writing or contributing to publications or disseminating research findings using media appropriate to the discipline;
    - Making presentations at conferences or exhibiting work in other appropriate events;
    - Assessing, interpreting and evaluating outcomes of research;
    - Developing new concepts and ideas to extend intellectual understanding;
    - Using new research techniques and methods;
    - Resolving problems of meeting research objectives and deadlines;

- Developing ideas for generating income and promoting research area;
- Developing ideas for application of research outcomes;
- Deciding on /following research programmes and methodologies, often in collaboration with colleagues and sometimes subject to the approval of the head of the research programme on fundamental issues.
- Analysing and interpreting the results of your own research and generating original ideas based on outcomes;
- Using initiative and creativity to identify areas for research, developing new research methods and extending the research portfolio;
- Using creativity to analyse and interpret research data and draw conclusions on the outcomes.

2. To contribute to teaching and learning programmes in the School and to supervise postgraduate research students.

3. To act as research team leader including:

- Mentoring colleagues with less experience and advising on their professional development;
- Coaching and supporting colleagues in developing their research techniques;
- Supervising the work of others, for example in research teams or projects;
- Developing productive working relationships with other members of staff;
- Co-ordinating the work of colleagues to ensure equitable access to resources and facilities;
- Dealing with standard problems and help colleagues to resolve their concerns about progress in research.

4. To routinely communicate complex and conceptual ideas to those with limited knowledge as well as to peers using high level skills and a range of media and to present the results of scientific research to sponsors and at conferences.

5. As determined by the nature of the project and at the direction of the PI, to plan, co-ordinate and implement research programme activity including:

- Managing the use of research resources and ensuring that effective use is made of them;
- Monitoring and reporting on the use of research budgets;
- Helping to plan and implement commercial and consultancy activities;
- Where appropriate, to plan and manage own consultancy assignments.

This job description summarises the main duties and accountabilities of the post and is not comprehensive: the post-holder may be required to undertake other duties of similar level and responsibility. Please visit the Human Resources website to view the Research Fellow role profiles.

Person Specification

Competency	Essential	Desirable
Attainments/Qualifications	PhD in a related discipline (e.g. bioinformatics, microbiology, cell biology, genetics, immunology, computer science) Research expertise in bioinformatics relating to fungal biology _OR_ immunology _OR_ related disciplines. Publications in strong peer-reviewed journals. **The post is for applicants with up to 5 years postdoctoral experience.**	Postdoctoral experience Research expertise in medical mycology (i.e. on medically important fungal pathogens).
Skills and Understanding	Possess sufficient specialist knowledge in the discipline to develop/follow research programmes and methodologies.	

	Record of research output in high quality publications. Proven research productivity in Bioinformatics and/ or medical mycology.	
Prior Experience	Experience of working independently. Experience of working productively with research teams. Evidence of successful collaboration with team members. Understanding of good practice in health and safety.	Presentations at national and international conferences.
Behavioural Characteristics	Strong written and verbal communication skills. Strong interpersonal and team working skills Able to communicate material of a specialist or highly technical nature. Evidence of the ability to collaborate actively within the Institution and externally to complete research projects and advance thinking. Able to build contacts and participate in internal and external networks for the exchange of information and collaboration. Proven ability to liaise with colleagues and students. Able to manage research and administrative activities and to balance the competing pressures of research and administrative demands and deadlines. Able to identify potential sources of funding. Where appropriate to the role, willingness to undergo training in order to conduct risk assessments. Understand equal opportunity issues as they may impact on areas of research content. An understanding of the importance of equality and diversity within an organisation and a commitment to helping create an inclusive culture.	
Circumstances	Willingness to work flexibly as required by the experiments Willingness to travel to meetings and conferences as required.	

Informal Enquiries
Before submitting an application, you may wish to discuss the post further. Contact in the first instance Dr. Rhys Farrer at R.Farrer@exeter.ac.uk. For general enquiries about the process, contact us at mrccmm@exeter.ac.uk.

Terms & Conditions
Our Terms and Conditions of Employment can be viewed here.

Further Information
Please see our website for further information on working at the University of Exeter.