

Old Road Campus Research Building

Job description and selection criteria

Job title	Postdoctoral Position in Intellectual Property
Division	Medical Sciences
Department	Nuffield Department of Medicine (NDM)
Location	Structural Genomics Consortium, Old Road Campus Research Building, Headington, Oxford
Grade and salary	Grade 7: £31,076-£38,183 per annum
Hours	Full time
Contract type	Fixed-term to 31 st December 2019 in the first instance
Reporting to	Strategic Alliances Manager
Vacancy reference	129058
Additional information	The successful applicant will be based in Oxford but will be expected to undertake some travelling to engage with partners.
Research topic	Affordable Medicines
Principal Investigator / supervisor	Principal Investigator – Professor Chas Bountra/Dr Wen Hwa Lee
Project team	Professor Chas Bountra, Dr Wen Hwa Lee, Dr Nick Scott-Ram, Professor Adrian Towse and Dr Jorge Mestre-Ferrandiz
Funding partner	The funds supporting this research project are provided by the Oxford Martin School
Recent publications	Arshad, Z., Smith, J., Roberts, M., Lee, W., Davies, B., Bure, K., Hollander, G., Dopson, S., Bountra, C. and Brindley, D (2016) "Open Access could transform drug discovery: A case study of JQ1." Expert Opinion on Drug Discovery , 11:321-332. (Available on http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1517/17460441.2016.1144587) Penfold, H. (2015) The intellectual property implications of Open Access drug discovery . The Oxford AHSN. (Available on http://www.healthandwealthoxford.org/wp-

[content/uploads/2016/09/12504-OAHSN-Intellectual-property-implications-drug-discovery.pdf](https://www.wellcome.ac.uk/content/uploads/2016/09/12504-OAHSN-Intellectual-property-implications-drug-discovery.pdf))

Pigott, R., Barker, R., Kaan, T., & Roberts, M. (2014). Shaping the future of open Innovation. **A Practical Guide for Life Science Organisations**. The Wellcome Trust. (Available on https://wellcome.ac.uk/sites/default/files/wtp057218_0.pdf)

Vertinsky, Liza. (2015) "Patents, Partnerships, and the Pre-Competitive Collaboration Myth in Pharmaceutical Innovation" in **UC Davis Law Review** 48. (Available on https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers2.cfm?abstract_id=2586021)

The role

Background

Humanity's need for new medicines continues to grow unabated, yet our traditional systems for discovering new drugs are inefficient, costly and have high failure rates, with less than 1% of efforts reaching the market. Drug development is risky and expensive, and some argue that the competitive nature of early-stage research within academia and industry means efforts are often duplicated and result in little or no dissemination of knowledge.

However, efforts are underway to establish new, 'open innovation' models of drug discovery as an alternative to the traditional closed model of research and development (R&D). These can range from limited, peer-to-peer partnerships through to wide-ranging, open source initiatives, and are beginning to involve groups outside academia and industry, such as patient organisations and charities. But the economic and efficiency benefits of such initiatives are as yet unclear, with little data available with which to inform strategic decisions and policy making.

Our Approach

Our interdisciplinary team draws on both academic and industry expertise, from fields including neuroscience, health economics, development pathways, pharmaceutical pricing, intellectual property and strategic partnerships.

We will analyse different R&D models, focusing on both closed and open systems of innovation, to establish answers to the following questions:

- What are the R&D models being practised and considered for the future?
- Who are the stakeholders in drug discovery and what are their roles?
- How are these contributors changing?
- What are the alternative strategies to conventional intellectual property (IP) protection?
- What are the economic benefits of different R&D models, for all stakeholders?
- What are the scientific and societal benefits of these new models?

Following our analysis and exploration of specific case studies, we will develop a range of models illustrating current and potential approaches to R&D in the life sciences sector, considering issues such as drivers of costs, intellectual property, market exclusivity and financial benefits for stakeholders. We will also create a flexible, cost-modelling tool that enables different parties to generate estimates of economic benefits for different stages of drug discovery R&D models.

Responsibilities

In order to drive change in a complex and entrenched ecosystem, proof is needed of the benefits of new drug discovery models. We aim to generate solid, data-backed and non-biased evidence upon which to base recommendations for policy making and with which to stimulate innovation and collaboration.

We are looking to recruit a post-doctoral position that will focus on the intellectual property workstream, and in particular to:

- Survey the different approaches to intellectual property management across existing Open Innovation partnerships.
- Develop case studies of leading therapeutic molecules that have reached the market with multiple indications and where anomalies in the patenting strategy have still led to successful commercialisation
- Detailed analysis of pre-existing IP legislation and policy across Europe, the United States and selected emerging markets (e.g. China, India, Brazil) for open innovation and closed R&D models
- Development of different models based on current and potentially new approaches to IP protection and market exclusivity.

Selection criteria

Essential selection criteria

- First degree in medical or life sciences
- PhD or equivalent in innovation, industry policy or drug discovery/development
- Experience of intellectual property either through a MSc or equivalent in Management of Intellectual Property would be advantageous
- Strong interest in innovation and drug development
- Ability to engage with industry and work across a range of different stakeholders

Desirable selection criteria

- Experience of intellectual property either through a MSc or equivalent in Management of Intellectual Property would be advantageous

About the University of Oxford

Welcome to the University of Oxford. We aim to lead the world in research and education for the benefit of society both in the UK and globally. Oxford's researchers engage with academic, commercial and cultural partners across the world to stimulate high-quality research and enable innovation through a broad range of social, policy and economic impacts.

We believe our strengths lie both in empowering individuals and teams to address fundamental questions of global significance, and in providing all of our staff with a welcoming and inclusive workplace that supports everyone to develop and do their best work. Recognising that diversity is a great strength, and vital for innovation and creativity, we aspire to build a truly diverse community which values and respects every individual's unique contribution.

While we have long traditions of scholarship, we are also forward-looking, creative and cutting-edge. Oxford is one of Europe's most entrepreneurial universities. Income from external research contracts in 2014/15 exceeded £522.9m and ranked first in the UK for university spin-outs, with more than 130 spin-off companies created to date. We are also recognised as leaders in support for social enterprise.

Join us and you will find a unique, democratic and international community, a great range of staff benefits and access to a vibrant array of cultural activities in the beautiful city of Oxford.

For more information please visit www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation

Medical Sciences

The Medical Sciences Division is an internationally recognized centre of excellence for biomedical and clinical research and teaching.

We are the largest academic division in the University of Oxford World-leading programmes, housed in state-of-the-art facilities, cover the full range of scientific endeavour from the molecule to the population. With our NHS partners we also foster the highest possible standards in patient care.

For more information please visit: www.medsci.ox.ac.uk

Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine (NDM)

The Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine (NDM) is one of the largest departments of the University of Oxford and is part of the Medical Sciences Division, with responsibility for a significant part of the teaching of clinical students within the Medical School. The Department also has a substantial research programme which requires high quality administrative management.

NDM has significant financial turnover and complexity, resulting from its diverse research portfolio, its geographical spread and its close links with NHS funding and strategic teams involved in the development and delivery of increasingly integrated clinical research platforms.

...fostering your career in science

For more information please visit: www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/home

The University of Oxford is a member of the [Athena SWAN Charter](#) and holds an institutional Bronze Athena SWAN award. The Nuffield Department of Medicine holds a Silver Athena SWAN award to recognise advancement of gender equality: representation, progression and success for all.

For more information please visit: www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/athena-swan

Structural Genomics Consortium (SGC)

The Structural Genomics Consortium (SGC), a not-for-profit, public-private partnership funds pre-competitive research that contributes to new hypotheses in understanding and treating human disease, and the subsequent identification of new targets for drug discovery. The SGC supports pioneering research at the University of Oxford (UK), University of Toronto (Canada), University of Campinas (Brazil), and University of North Carolina (USA). The reagents and knowledge related to human proteins that the SGC supports are made openly accessible to researchers around the world to accelerate the discovery of new medicines in order to bring potentially life-saving drugs to market faster and at a lower cost.

SGC Oxford, a part of the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine, receives funding from public, charitable and private sector organisations such as the European Commission, UK Research Councils, Wellcome Trust, and pharmaceutical companies. Research in SGC Oxford is focused on the production and characterisation of the 3-dimensional structures of soluble and of integral membrane proteins, the discovery of selective chemical probes that can modulate protein function, and the development of target enabling packages that transform genetic hits into starting points for drug discovery. SGC Oxford shares its research outputs through collaborations with researchers worldwide.

For more information please visit: <http://www.thesgc.org/scientists/groups/oxford/>

How to apply

Before submitting an application, you may find it helpful to read the 'Tips on applying for a job at the University of Oxford' document, at www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/supportandtechnical/.

If you would like to apply, click on the **Apply Now** button on the 'Job Details' page and follow the on-screen instructions to register as a new user or log-in if you have applied previously. Please provide details of two referees and indicate whether we can contact them now.

You will also be asked to upload a CV and a supporting statement. The supporting statement should explain how you meet the selection criteria for the post using examples of your skills and experience. This may include experience gained in employment, education, or during career breaks (such as time out to care for dependants).

Your application will be judged solely on the basis of how you demonstrate that you meet the selection criteria stated in the job description.

Please upload all documents **as PDF files** with your name and the document type in the filename.

All applications must be received by **midday** on the closing date stated in the online advertisement.

Information for priority candidates

A priority candidate is a University employee who is seeking redeployment because they have been advised that they are at risk of redundancy, or on grounds of ill-health/disability. Priority candidates are issued with a redeployment letter by their employing departments.

If you are a priority candidate, please ensure that you attach your redeployment letter to your application (or email it to the contact address on the advert if the application form used for the vacancy does not allow attachments)

Should you experience any difficulties using the online application system, please email recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk. Further help and support is available from www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/support/. To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: www.recruit.ox.ac.uk.

Please note that you will be notified of the progress of your application by automatic emails from our e-recruitment system. **Please check your spam/junk mail** regularly to ensure that you receive all emails.

Important information for candidates

Pre-employment screening

Please note that the appointment of the successful candidate will be subject to standard pre-employment screening, as applicable to the post. This will include right-to-work, proof of identity and references. We advise all applicants to read the candidate notes on the University's pre-employment screening procedures, found at:

www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/.

The University's policy on retirement

The University operates an employer justified retirement age for all academic and academic-related posts (grade 6 and above), for which the retirement date is the 30 September immediately preceding the 68th birthday. The justification for this is explained at: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/revisedejra/revaim/.

For **existing** employees any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/revisedejra/revproc/

There is no normal or fixed age at which **support staff** in posts at **grades 1–5** have to retire. Support staff may retire once they reach the minimum pension age stipulated in the Rules of the pension scheme to which they belong.

Equality of Opportunity

Entry into employment with the University and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each particular post and the relevant salary structure. In all cases, ability to perform the job will be the primary consideration. No applicant or member of staff shall be discriminated against because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

Benefits of working at the University

Training and Development

A range of training and development opportunities are available at the University. Further details can be found at

www.ox.ac.uk/staff/working_at_oxford/training_development/index.html.

For research staff only: Support for Research Staff

There is a particularly wide range of support for career development for research staff.

Please visit: www.ox.ac.uk/research/support-researchers to find out more.

Pensions

The University offers generous occupational pension schemes for eligible staff members.

Further details can be found at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/finance/epp/pensions/pensionspolicy/.

Information for international staff (or those relocating from another part of the UK)

A wealth of information is available on the University's International Staff website for staff who are relocating to Oxford from abroad, at

www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/international/.

The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club

The Newcomers' Club is aimed at helping partners of newly-arrived visiting scholars, graduate students and academic members of the University to settle in and to meet people in Oxford.

Transport schemes

The University offers a range of travel schemes and public transport travel discounts to staff.

Full details are available at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/estates/ourservices/travel/.

University Club and University Sports Facilities

The University Club provides social, sporting and hospitality facilities. It incorporates a Club bar, a cafe and sporting facilities, including a gym. See www.club.ox.ac.uk for all further details.

University staff can use the University Sports Centre at discounted rates, and have the chance to join sports clubs. Please visit www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities.

Childcare and Childcare Vouchers

The University offers quality childcare provision services at affordable prices to its employees. For full details about the services offered, please visit

www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare/. **NB: Due to the high demand for the University's nursery places there is a long waiting list.**

The University also offers nursery fee payment schemes to eligible staff as an opportunity to save tax and national insurance on childcare costs. Please visit

www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare.

Disabled staff

The University is committed to supporting members of staff with a disability or long-term health condition and has a dedicated Staff Disability Advisor. Please visit

www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff for further details.

BUPA - Eduhealth

Bupa Eduhealth Essentials private medical insurance offers special rates for University of Oxford staff and their families www.eduhealth.co.uk/mini-site/.

All other benefits

For other benefits, such as free entry to colleges, the Botanic Gardens and staff discounts offered by third party companies, please see

www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/.