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Birmingham Fellows Recruitment Priority Areas 2015

In 2015 the University of Birmingham has identified 25 priority areas for recruitment from across the five Colleges.

Below is further information about the priority areas identified for the 2015 recruitment, together with details about the academic leads for each area.









Robotics

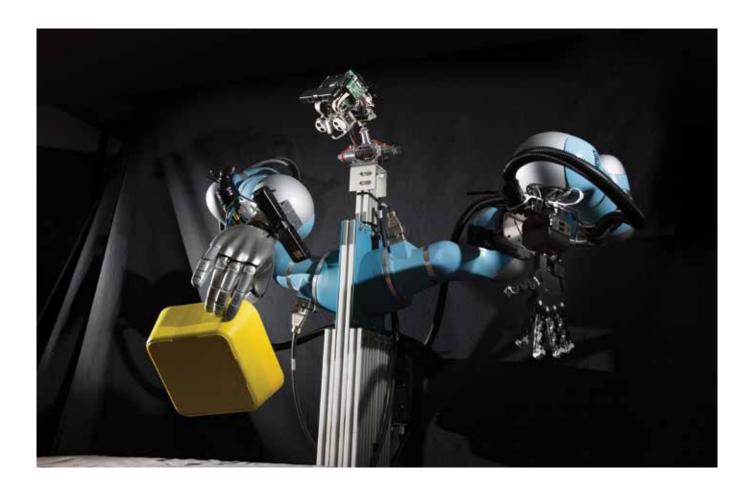
Job Ref: 36466

Priority Area Lead: Professor Jeremy L Wyatt

Birmingham is a leading European centre for robotics, with €10m of live external research funding (www.cs.bham.ac.uk/go/irlab), seven faculty and more than 40 researchers. The group is research active in middleware for robotics, long life robotics, human robot interaction, task planning, decision making and reasoning under uncertainty, motion planning, compliant, redundant and under-actuated robotics, whole body control, humanoid robotics, robot and computer vision, dexterous robot manipulation and grasping, rehabilitation robotics, robot surgery, Al for robotics, bio-inspired robotics, and machine learning for robotics. We collaborate with more than 20 different institutions worldwide, including local collaborations with the Manufacturing Technology Centre, the Birmingham Railways Centre, and the Centre for Surgical Reconstruction and Microbiology. We also have active industrial collaborations in the areas of logistics, nuclear, and industrial assembly.

The current laboratory has excellent facilities that will be available to the successful candidate. This includes 2 Metralabs Scitos A5 platforms; 11 P3-DX mobile robots; a half humanoid dextrous manipulation platform with two five fingered hands and a 7DoF active stereo head; and numerous smaller platforms, all housed in a 116m^2 laboratory. The group also has a full-time robotics designer and engineer, and full-time dedicated administrative support. Through MTC we have occasional access to state of the art facilities including several robot platforms (bi-manual, mobile manipulation etc.), as well as a surface mount production line, a wide range of modern machine tools and state of the art 3D printers. Current live projects include PacMan (www.pacman-project.eu), STRANDS

The successful candidate will have areas of expertise and a PhD in Robotics or an allied discipline. You will have an outstanding publication record for your career stage, and be able to show evidence of ability to attract external research funding. The search is driven primarily by the excellence of the candidate rather than by desire to appoint to a particular sub-field.



Race and Ethnicity in Education

Job Ref: 36460

Priority Area Lead: Professor David Gillborn

Launched in 2013, the Centre for Research in Race and Education (CRRE) is known internationally for its leading edge scholarship. In addition to extensive research activities, members of the centre also work closely with a range of stakeholder groups in pursuit of race equality, for example, Baroness Doreen Lawrence spoke at the centre's launch. We have subsequently hosted the first ever 'British Schools and the Black Child' conference, organised by Diane Abbott MP, and the first national seminar to critically examine the so-called 'Trojan Horse' affair.

The centre's work is strongly influenced by Critical Race Theory (CRT), an approach to understanding racism's complex and changing role in shaping and sustaining social inequality. CRT initially began as part of US legal studies and has grown to become an international interdisciplinary movement. It is particularly influential in the field of education and scholars in CRRE have played a key role in developing CRT within a UK and European context. A distinctive aspect of our use of CRT has been to pay particular attention to issues of 'intersectionality'; that is, how ideas about race and racism work alongside intersecting aspects of disadvantage such as social class, gender and dis/ability.

The appointment of a Birmingham Fellow to CRRE represents a major investment in the centre and is indicative of the University's commitment to this field. Applications should address any specialist focus that reflects a critical perspective on research and policy engagement in the field of race inequity in education. The appointed fellow will have a growing reputation in the field and be able to demonstrate a strong research track record, including high quality publications and the ability to attract external funding. Some level of first-hand engagement with the policy process, through work with stakeholder groups, community engagement and/or policy bodies would also be an advantage.



Superdiversity

Job Ref: 36459

Priority Area Lead: Professor Jenny Phillimore

Globalisation, urbanisation and human migration have brought unprecedented and rapid societal change in traditional and new immigration societies and with it wide ranging challenges that demand the development of new theory, method, policy and practice. The Institute for Research into Superdiversity (IRiS) is rapidly establishing a reputation as one of the world's leading institutes researching this emergent superdiversity. We seek individuals with potential to lead research agendas in this developing field, transform thinking across disciplines and produce high quality research and publications. In particular, but not exclusively, we are keen to develop further our capacity to undertake conceptual work around the notion of superdiversity, to develop new theory around societal adaptation to superdiversification and new approaches to modelling and visualising population diversity.

IRiS was established as a cross-University of Birmingham institute in 2012. Our location in Birmingham and close connections with communities and institutions provide a clear strategic advantage. Birmingham, as one of the largest and most diverse cities in Europe, provides the ideal location for research both at national level and within international comparative studies. Since its launch in October 2012 IRiS has run over 30 events, successfully attracted over £4 million in funding from blue chip funders, launched a new MA programme and run the world's first interdisciplinary superdiversity conference. IRiS has established a wide range of activities such as a doctoral researcher diversity network, a seed corn fund to aid early career researchers to bring a superdiversity lens to their work and a working paper series. We run an accredited Practitioner Researcher Programme which trains communities and practitioners in research skills while engaging them in research activity and are working on a number of innovative initiatives such as a data sharing partnership and permanent research sites that will enable us to gain a long-term perspective on superdiversification.



International Security

Job Ref: 36458

Priority Area Lead: Professor Paul Jackson

This theme responds to the University's recognition of security as one of its strategic priorities. The recent establishment of the Institute of Conflict, Cooperation and Security (ICCS) with its commitment to promoting a multidisciplinary approach to security brings together significant expertise on security, cooperation, peace agreements, conflict analysis and state building across the School of Government and Society (G&S). This is a significant area of strength for the University with an impressive record of grant capture, research and impact and established policy credentials through the Governance and Social Development Resource Centre (GSDRC), and the editorship of two important journals in this field, Intervention and Statebuilding and Ethnopolitics, as well as the co-editorship of Civil Wars.

The University has a specific and well-identified research niche in this area, with a concentration of scholars across disciplinary boundaries in politics, economics, international relations and development, with particular research excellence in security, conflict and state building in the developing world. Issues of international intervention and security in spaces as diverse as Libya, Syria, Iraq, Nepal, Nigeria, and Yemen raise a number of different issues and the research undertaken within ICCS and G&S covers a wide range of approaches from the use of drone technology to long-term governance interventions, and from international aid, to the structure of peace negotiations and conflict agreements. Consequently, this theme analyses the norms, rules, drivers and institutions of security and insecurity, and of conflict and cooperation, ranging from empirical work through informed theoretical approaches to the question of what 'the state' is and what politics looks like in insecure environments.



Regional Economic Development

Job Ref: 36461

Priority Area Lead: Professor John R Bryson

Birmingham Business School has a sustained track record of internationally excellent research into firm behaviour, competitiveness and regional economic development. The Regional Economic Development research group, headed by Professor John R. Bryson, has an active PhD student community, currently two externally funded Research Fellows and major collaborative research projects with colleagues in the UK, China and the US. Our research has been funded by national and international private and public sector sponsors. A long-standing engagement with the Greater Birmingham Local Enterprise Partnership, Birmingham City Council, the UK National Government and the European Commission (DG Enterprise and Industry) demonstrates the practical relevance and credibility of our research and its impact, especially on the development of EU policy interventions in the area of regional policy and on policy developed across the West Midlands.

Birmingham Fellows would play a key role in our vision to establish a world-leading research institute focussed on international comparative studies of major city regions to better understand and influence regional and national economic growth policies. Successful applicants would work with other members of the team to develop a systemic approach, moving beyond disciplinary or thematically focussed research by developing and applying an overarching conceptual framework for understanding the functioning and on-going evolution of regional economies. This represents a research dialogue between social sciences and engineering and facilitates a more effective, long-term framing of regional policy development.

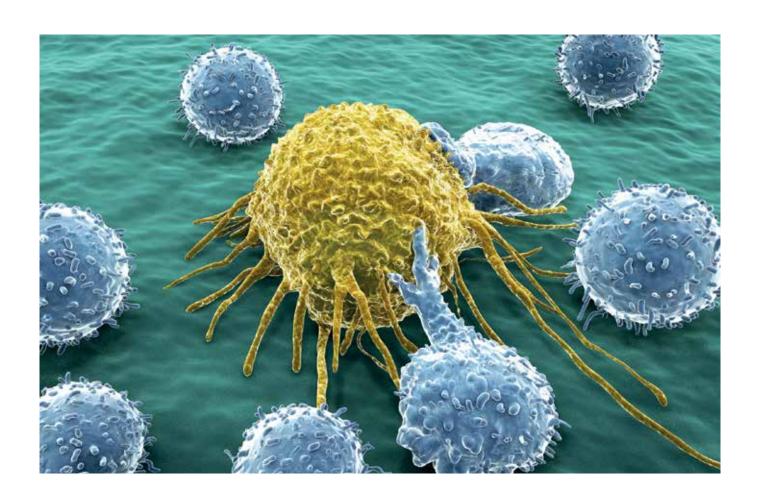


Cancer

Job Ref: 36473

Priority Area Lead: Professor Ben Willcox

Cancer research in the College of Medical and Dental Sciences is underpinned by fundamental discovery science in cancer genetics and epigenetics, tumour immunology, the tumour microenvironment, and tumour virology, with the ultimate aim of delivering new therapies to cancer patients. Our research portfolio benefits from cutting edge facilities in areas such as single cell genomics, next generation sequencing, digital pathology, immunophenotyping, metabolomics and structural biology. In many cases these studies feed into preclinical mechanistic approaches, including on new therapeutic strategies, and align with key clinical foci areas. The CRUK Clinical Trials Unit based at the University completes a "translational pipeline" that offers researchers genuine opportunities for translating their research findings into patients. Stratified and personalised medicine provides an increasingly important cross-cutting approach, and one where Birmingham has a leading position within the UK, reflected by central roles in stratified clinical trials in colorectal and lung cancer and the 100,000 genome project. In addition to providing an outlet for translation, this stratified approach synergises strongly with a rapidly expanding bioinformatics team, providing a fertile environment for hypothesis generation that helps focus our research programmes on questions that are both intellectually fundamental and clinically central. We are looking for highly motivated research fellows with a proven track record, including high impact publications, who have an interest in pursuing innovative research

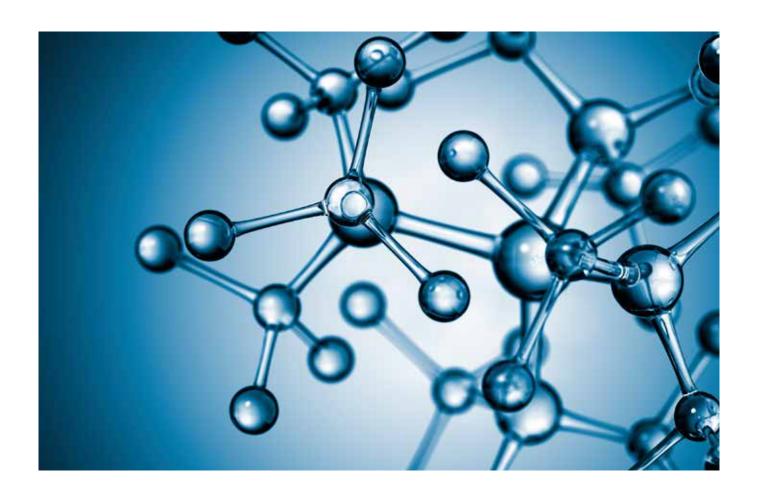


Molecular Endocrinology

Job Ref: 36475

Priority Area Lead: Professor Martin Hewison

Endocrine research at the University of Birmingham has an internationally recognized profile of research excellence. The Centre for Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism (CEDAM) is the focal point for this research, and encompasses four broad themes: 1) Hormonal control of reproduction and development. Major advances at Birmingham include the discovery of endocrine and genetic basis of androgen excess disorders (including polycystic ovary syndrome and congenital adrenal hyperplasia), and characterization of key mechanisms that link maternal endocrinology and foetal development; 2) Hormones and inflammation. The link between endocrinology and immunology has for many years centred on the use of steroid hormones as therapy for inflammatory diseases. Interdisciplinary research at Birmingham has explored improvements to this strategy through studies aimed at defining the precise mechanisms that link immune function with key anti-inflammatory hormones such as glucocorticoids and vitamin D; 3) Energy metabolism, obesity and diabetes. Metabolic physiology and its dysregulation is of central importance to a host of human health issues ranging from early life events predisposing adult disease, to health decline with ageing and cancer; 4) Endocrine-related cancer. Hormones and cancers are inextricably linked in multiple tumour settings including pituitary, thyroid, adrenal, breast and prostate cancers. Moreover, hormonal control of cell growth is central to numerous physiological processes, and endocrine cancer is thus an inherently multidisciplinary field affecting a large proportion of all human cancers. Understanding the roles that hormones play in neoplasia continues to result in improved therapies. We are looking for a highly motivated and innovative research fellow with a proven track record, including high impact publications in any relevant field.



Immunology and Inflammation

Job Ref: 36476

Priority Area Lead: Professor Graham Anderson

Our research in this area is based on a translational pipeline that links discovery research and animal models to the diagnosis and treatment of human disease. Research-focused Centres at the heart of a powerful medical and clinical campus provide a framework for our work. The MRC Centre for Immune Regulation and the Centre for Translational Inflammation Research support internationally recognized research in areas that include lymphocyte biology, immunoregulation and autoimmunity. These facilities are closely aligned with the Human Biomaterials Resource Centre, The Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Facility, and Institute for Translational Medicine that provide access to patient cohorts, support early-phase clinical trials and allow for deep immunophenotyping of patient samples via CyTOF. We are looking for ambitious and highly motivated individuals with a proven track record to complement and enhance our current research interests, and continue our long-term goal of manipulating the immune system in animal models to improve clinical treatment in man.



Applied Health Research

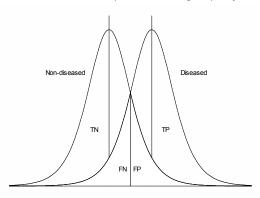
Job Ref: 36474

Priority Area Lead: Professor Jon Deeks

Methods for the Evaluation of Medical Tests and Biomarkers

A key focus of the University of Birmingham's activity in the Applied Health Sciences is in developing, evaluating and applying methods to improve the evaluation of Medical Tests.

Collaborations between clinicians, biostatisticians, health economists, evidence synthesists and trialists has created a research group of international renown, which aims to identify the best methods for evaluating the impact of tests on patients and the health services, whether tests are used for screening, diagnosis, prognosis or monitoring. Direct evaluation of patient benefit is challenging, as testing rarely changes health states, but rather acts in a multifactorial and complex manner, with benefit accruing from more appropriate interventions, changing patient pathways and time frames, and minimising the harms of testing. Our research activity focuses on study design, aiming to optimise appropriate designs and identify weaknesses which lead to bias; on methods of analysis, developing and comparing analytical approaches and methods; and on the interpretation of study findings, ensuring rational conclusions are drawn about patient benefits and harms. We are looking for a highly motivated research fellow in any of the related applied research disciplines with a record of successful publication in high impact journals to pursue innovative research in this area.





Water Sciences

Job Ref: 36471

Priority Area Lead: Professor David M. Hannah

We are seeking to make strategic appointments to enhance our world-leading reputation and research power in Water Sciences. Specifically, we are looking for Birmingham Fellowship applications from dynamic researchers working on globally significant challenges in two priority areas: Water in a Changing World and Hydrohazards.

Understanding and predicting how water in the environment responds to climate and other drivers of change is essential to develop sustainable water policies and adaption strategies. There is growing evidence that the changing climate and increasing human pressures are affecting the hydrological cycle as wells as the functioning of water-dependent ecosystems and their service provision. There is much uncertainty over future projections of hydrological changes (especially extreme events) and their environmental consequences.

Water-related hazards (termed hydrohazards) are the results of complex interactions in the ocean-atmosphere-land-human system. Despite serious impacts on the environment and socio-economic life, major knowledge gaps remain in understanding, predicting and managing hydrohazards, such as floods, droughts and water quality extremes.

At Birmingham, the Water Sciences theme advances fundamental understanding of the functioning of river basin systems through interdisciplinary research (across multiple space-time scales, in a range of environments) that bridges hydrology, hydroclimatology, geomorphology, biogeochemistry, hydrogeology and hydroecology/ ecohydrology. We deliver innovative science by developing and using state-of-the-art methods (e.g. numerical modelling, (geo-)statistical tools, novel sensing technologies, and laboratory/ field experimentation).



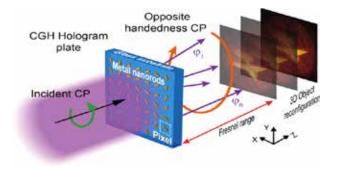
Quantum Matter/ Metamaterials

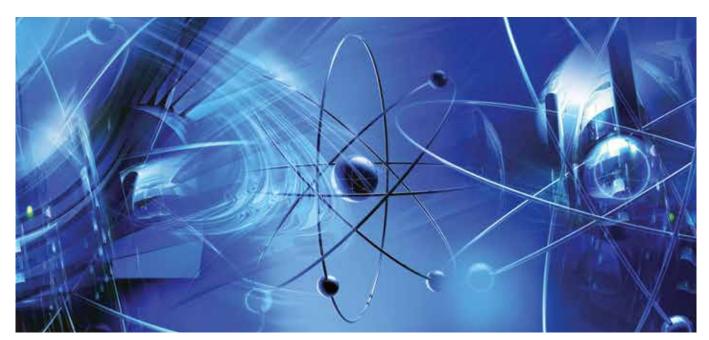
Job Ref: 36465

Priority Area Lead: Professor Kai Bongs

The University of Birmingham is one of the leading institutions in Quantum Matter research in the world. This is demonstrated in our leadership of the UK National Quantum Technology Hub in Sensors and Metrology; an £80M project involving the universities of Glasgow, Nottingham, Southampton, Strathclyde and Sussex as well as over 70 commercial partners. This work is underpinned locally by the Midlands Ultracold Atom Research Centre (MUARC) a joint venture by the Birmingham and Nottingham Schools of Physics and Astronomy, which was initiated by a £9M (inc. University support) Science and Innovation (S&I) award. In addition the University invested £1.5M in 2010 to create a metamaterial research group, combining theory and experiment. Dr. Shuang Zhang and Dr. Jensen Li from UC Berkeley are the first academic staff members in the group. The Metamaterial group has been in the forefront of this research area, with three publications in nature journals and five PRLs during the last two years. The group's research has been supported by ERC, EPSRC, Leverhulme, and Samsung. The macroscopic invisibility cloak developed by the group was selected as "top 10 breakthroughs in Physics in 2011" by IOP's Physics World, and has attracted numerous media coverage including BBC, Guardian, and Fox News.

The University is now looking to appoint exceptional scientists in the area of metamaterials, atomic quantum gases and quantum optics with a view on applications in quantum sensors and information. Theory and experimental applicants are welcome, ideally at the interface of the above areas. We are also open to applicants working in the area of quantum condensed matter (correlated matter and nanoscale materials).







Healthcare Technologies

Job Ref: 36463

Priority Area Lead: Professor Liam Grover

The University of Birmingham has a growing strength in the development of novel technologies for use in Healthcare. This increasing strength has been augmented by the establishment of a strong translational network on the University campus, which now facilitates the transfer of novel basic science and engineering innovations from the benchtop right through to the clinical setting. The University is currently looking to appoint exceptional scientists and engineers whose research is focussed around the development of medical technologies. The scope of these appointments will be broad and could include: 1) the development of novel diagnostic devices to enable patient stratification and treatment; 2) the formulation of new biomaterials that may be used for the repair and regeneration of tissues; 3) the design of advanced prosthetics that are able to restore full function. The appointed fellows will join a growing team of academics working to develop such technologies and will have access to some the best laboratory facilities and translational network in the UK and the world.

The successful candidate will have a PhD in an appropriate discipline. You will have an outstanding publication record for your career stage, and be able to show evidence of ability to attract external research funding.



Energy Business, Economics and Policy

Job Ref: 36464

Priority Area Lead: Professor Martin Freer and

Professor Matthew Cole

The Birmingham Energy Institute (BEI) brings together research linked to energy across the University. Its mission is to integrate energy related research in engineering, earth and biosciences with economics and policy to deliver solutions which shape the UK energy landscape, and beyond. The BEI has a number of underpinning research centres that include the Birmingham Centre for Energy Storage, the Centre for Nuclear Education and Research, the Centre for Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Research, Environmental and Energy Economics and Management and Transport (rail and motor vehicle). It is delivering impact in each of these thematic areas, but also through a number of policy initiatives, for example examining the "Future of Nuclear Energy in the UK" and most recently "The Cold Economy". These high profile policy activities have been/are being chaired by Lord Hunt and Lord Teverson.

As part of the development of the BEI a high quality Birmingham Fellow is being sought to strengthen the capability in energy systems and policy analysis. Of critical importance to the success of new energy technologies (such as those being developed in the University) is creating the appropriate market framework and policy environment into which they can be deployed. This requires strong cross-disciplinary research, linking engineering with economics/business to undertake qualitative and quantitative analysis leading to the formulation of recommendations for policy and regulation. Economic models which describe the impacts of technologies and policies will provide key evidence to Government and industry on the basis of which investment decisions can be taken.

The successful candidate should have an established track record in one of the areas of energy economics, energy markets and energy policy and combined with a good understanding of a broad spectrum of how energy technologies are integrated into future energy systems. An established collaborative network and national and international visibility are key attributes. The expectation would be that the programme of research would draw together the cross disciplinary strands of research within the BEI.



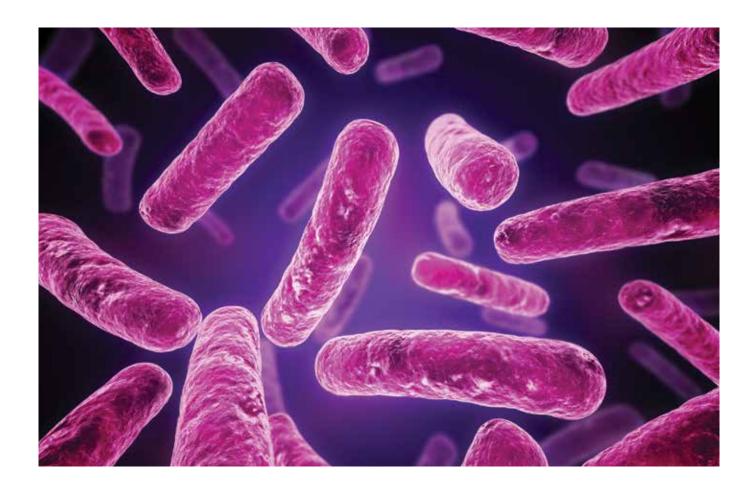


Microbiology and Infection

Job Ref: 36469

Priority Area Lead: Professor Robin May

The Institute of Microbiology and Infection at Birmingham has one of the highest concentration of microbiologists in Europe, with 45 Investigators and more than 200 staff. We have particular strengths in cell envelope/structural biology, host immunity and pathogenesis, antimicrobial resistance and microbial transcription and genomics. With a large proportion of independent fellows, excellent research facilities, a dynamic graduate student and postdoctoral community and a £10m per annum turnover, the IMI is an ideal destination for early career investigators. The University of Birmingham is currently looking to appoint exceptional scientists who research is focussed around microbiology or infection. If you have proven expertise in these areas, ambitious plans and a strong publication record then we are interested to hear from you.



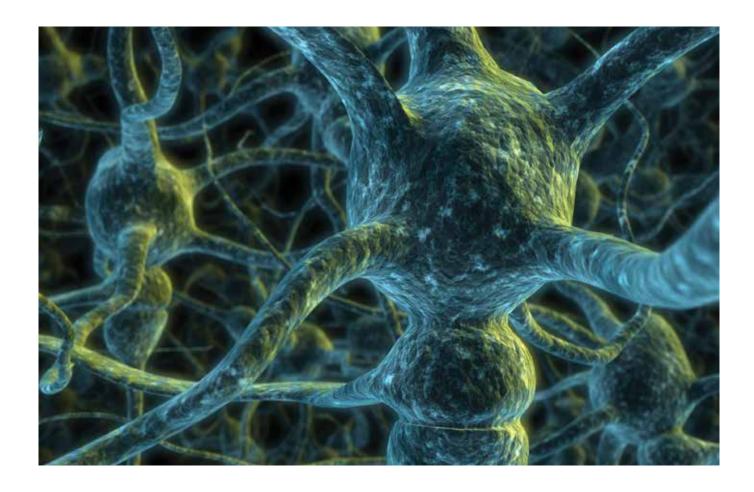
Cognitive Neuroscience and Mental Health

Job Ref: 36467

Priority Area Lead: Professor Stephen Wood

Cognitive neuroscience and mental health research are two major strengths of the School of Psychology, and we seek to appoint an outstanding scientist whose research will contribute to one or both of these disciplines. Although we anticipate that the 'home' will be Psychology, the successful candidate will have the opportunity to work closely with colleagues at the University Hospitals Birmingham, with mental health services and clinics across the West Midlands, and with the emerging Institute of Translational Medicine. The Birmingham Fellow will have access to an impressive 'toolkit' of facilities including an extensive clinical test library, 3T Philips MRI scanner, and compatible EEG and TMS (single-pulse and repetitive) equipment enabling joint fMRI/EEG or fMRI/TMS recording, transcranial electrical (tACS, tDCS) devices for cortical stimulation, MEG and high-field strength (7T) MRI access via our partner University (Nottingham), visuomotor tracking station complete with eye and limb-movement monitoring devices, a bimanual force-controlled robotics arm, DNA sequencing and genotyping services, advanced mass spectrometry, and excellent access to both clinical and non-clinical populations across the life span.

The Fellow would be appointed jointly to the schools of Psychology, Computer Science, Bioscience, or Sport and Exercise Science and have close engagement through Birmingham Health Partners and the Institute of Translational Medicine.



Exercise as Medicine

Job Ref: 36470

Priority Area Lead: Professor Janice L. Thompson

Physical inactivity is the fourth leading cause of death worldwide. Engaging in physical activity and reducing sedentary behaviours confer a broad range of physical and psychological health benefits. The evidence is clear that physical activity can be a valuable adjunctive therapy in disease prevention, and in the treatment of and rehabilitation from illness and injury. The research conducted via this Fellowship will contribute to our focus on assessing the effects of exercise on physical and psychological health in a diverse range of populations across the lifespan, and informing the development of new physical activity strategies, policies and interventions.

We are seeking an outstanding applicant to focus on one of the School's strategic areas of interest within the broad Exercise as Medicine theme. These areas include: understanding the mechanisms by which exercise affects the cells, tissues and systems of the human body; investigating behaviour change techniques; understanding how exercise interventions might be optimized (e.g., intensity, duration, mode) or individualized; using acute bouts of exercise to assess the benefits of interventions (e.g., exercise, pharmacological or nutritional) or to reveal abnormalities in physiological regulation that may limit physical capacity and exercise performance; and the effective education and training of those practitioners who have the responsibility to deliver physical activity education and advice.

In order to meet the multi-disciplinary challenges of this theme, collaborations with appropriate colleagues across disciplines within the School of Sport, Exercise & Rehabilitation Sciences and in Psychology, Biosciences, Medical and Dental Sciences, Education, or Social Policy will be strongly encouraged.



Plant Genetics and Cell Biology:

Job Ref: 36472

Priority Area Lead: Professor Chris Franklin

As a result of population growth and climate change, food security is one of the main challenges confronting mankind in the 21st century. Plant Genetics and Cell Biology research in Birmingham encompasses both fundamental and translational research that aims to make a significant contribution to addressing this challenge. Research is organized within over-arching themes of genetic and cellular control of plant growth and development together with the newly established Birmingham Institute of Forestry Research (BiFoR). Specific research topics include: (i) Plant reproductive development: particularly the genetic and epigenetic control of meiotic recombination and DNA-damage repair; cell-cell recognition and inter-cellular signalling during pollination. (ii) Experimental and computational modelling to engineer plant cell development. (iii) Elucidation of molecular-cellular responses to abiotic stress. (iv) Quantitative genetics of complex traits: application of next generation sequencing to QTL analysis. (v) Conservation of plant genetic resources. (vi) Plant pathology: interactions between trees and their pathogens. We are looking for an outstanding, highly motivated research fellow, with a proven track record including high impact publications, to enhance and contribute to the development of our research portfolio.



Environmental Genomics, Metabolomics and Health

Job Ref: 36468

Priority Area Lead: Professor Mark Viant

Our society depends on a healthy environment. Yet too little is understood about how biological systems cope with the many sources of stress (both natural and human induced) that increasingly threaten ecosystems and natural resources. Furthermore the direct effects of environmental pollutants and their mixtures on human health are also largely unknown. This necessitates a data revolution at evaluating hazards and their modes of action so to inform new policies for both environmental and public health management that is based on scientific knowledge. A similar data revolution is required to characterise the environmentally induced molecular changes that can impact on human health. Considering the scale of this problem, a timely shift to a new approach for both regulatory and diagnostic science is proposed – one which is based on a mechanistic understanding of how environmental stressors including chemicals and nanomaterials disrupt biological processes.

The University of Birmingham is a world leader in the development and application of omics and Systems Biology approaches to study the impacts of chemicals, nanomaterials and other environmental stressors on the environment and on human health. This builds upon our expertise in environmental genomics, molecular and cellular toxicology as well as evolutionary biology. It also aligns closely with the scientific goals of the new Birmingham Institute of Forest Research. Our aims include understanding and ultimately predicting how individual organisms, including humans, and populations in the natural environment respond to stressors associated particularly with pollution. We are identifying molecular pathways predictive of adverse outcome and are driving innovation for future novel strategies for environmental regulation worldwide. To that end we are increasingly engaging with regulators and seeking to translate this basic research into environmental policy, both for chemical risk assessment and environmental monitoring. We seek outstanding Fellows who will utilise our exceptional research capabilities, including a new £5m MRC funded Regional Phenome Centre, NERC funded Biomolecular Analysis Facility for environmental metabolomics and the UoB-BGI Joint Centre for Environmental Omics, to work in the following themes:

- Novel strategies for cost-effective and robust high-throughput toxicity screening and high-content 'omics technologies to gain a deeper understanding of the impacts of toxicity and other environmental stressors:
- Pioneering applications of epigenetics, genomics or metabolomics in chemical toxicology, nanotoxicology, environmental stress biology or environmental impacts on human health.
- Discovering the functioning and interacting elements of genomes that are responsive to environmental conditions with effects on the fitness of organisms.



19th or 20th Century European History

Job Ref: 36478

Priority Area Lead: Professor Corey Ross

The Department of History is seeking to appoint a specialist in the area of 19th- or 20th-century Eastern European history to extend and consolidate our expertise in this area. We are particularly interested in scholars eager to develop new connections within and between the Department's current areas of strength, and whose work falls within one or more of its key research themes: imperialism, transnationalism and diasporas; war, conflict and cooperation; history of religions, beliefs and ideas; everyday life and popular culture; environment; political cultures; global history. The History department at Birmingham was ranked number one in the UK by the REF2014 national research audit, and is home to a lively and supportive research environment. It has particular strengths in modern European history, and maintains strong links with scholars working in this field (including Eastern Europe) based in other departments at Birmingham. The appointed Enhanced Early Career Lecturer will have a growing reputation in the field and be able to demonstrate a strong research track record, including high quality publications and the ability to attract external funding.



18th Century European History

Job Ref: 36478

Priority Area Lead: Professor Corey Ross

The Department of History is seeking to appoint a specialist in the broad area of 18th-century European history to complement our core strengths in modern European history. We are particularly interested in scholars eager to develop new connections within and between the Department's current areas of strength, and whose work falls within one or more of its key research themes: imperialism, transnationalism and diasporas; war, conflict and cooperation; history of religions, beliefs and ideas; everyday life and popular culture; environment; political cultures; global history. The History department at Birmingham was ranked number one in the UK by the REF2014 national research audit, and is home to a lively and supportive research environment. It has particular strengths in both early- and late-modern European history, and is home to the Centre for Reformation and Early Modern Studies as well as the Centre for Contemporary History. The appointed Enhanced Early Career Lecturer will be expected to focus on Europe, but with a markedly outward-facing approach in line with our departmental interests and strengths. S/he will have a growing reputation in the field and be able to demonstrate a strong research track record, including high quality publications and the ability to attract external funding.



Global Ethics

Job Ref: 36477

Priority Area Lead: Professor Yujin Nagasawa

The Department of Philosophy is home to a lively and committed research community. It ranked second in the REF2014 national research audit, securing its reputation as one of the best research institutions in the English-speaking world. The department has expertise in a range of areas, including: Epistemology; the Philosophy of Religion; Metaphysics; and the Philosophy of Language and Mathematics. The Centre for the Study of Global Ethics is the oldest Centre of its kind in the UK and has a long-standing reputation for the excellence and impact of its research. Its focus areas are: justice and development; environment and health; gender justice; conflict and security. We seek to build on and further develop the scope of the Centre with the appointment of an Enhanced Early Career Lecture. The Lecturer will play a central role in the intellectual life of the Centre, producing excellent research which impacts on policy and practice. They will be encouraged to strengthen connections between the Centre and other areas of the College and University, such as the Birmingham Law School. They will have a growing reputation in the field and be able to demonstrate a strong research track record, including high quality publications and the ability to attract external funding.



Philosophical Theology

Job Ref: 36482

Priority Area Lead: Dr David Cheetham

The School of Philosophy, Theology and Religion seeks to appoint an Enhanced Early Career Lecturer in any area of Philosophical Theology. The School is home to a lively research community which is strongly committed to delivering the highest quality of research. We are well placed to achieve our goal of being one of the best research institutions in Theology, Religion and Philosophy in the English-speaking world. In the REF2014 national research audit, both the Department of Philosophy and the Department of Theology and Religion ranked second in the UK. The Department of Theology and Religion has many areas of specialization, including those represented by the Centre for Pentecostal and Charismatic Studies, the Edward Cadbury Centre for the Public Understanding of Religion, and the John Hicks Centre for the Philosophy of Religion. The Department's vision is to develop its engagement with Philosophical Theology over the next five years, building a strong cohort of scholars engaged in world-leading research. The appointed Lecturer will play a key role in delivering this vision, building on and enhancing connections across the two departments in the School and beyond. They will have a growing reputation in the field and be able to demonstrate a strong research track record, including high quality publications and the ability to attract external funding.



British Art since 1800

Job Ref: 36481

Priority Area Lead: Dr Francesca Berry

The Department of Art History is a small but growing department with a lively and supportive research culture and a commitment to delivering world-class research with academic and public impact. It emerged as one of the top departments in the country in the REF2014 national research audit. We seek to appoint an Enhanced Early Career Researcher in the history and theory of British art, design and visual culture since 1800. The Lecturer will have research expertise that complements and enhances the department's existing, internationally-recognised focus in the history, historiography, curating and theory of Continental European and North American art, design and visual culture since 1800. Our current research interests include museums and national identity; revolutions and iconoclasm; migration and post-colonialism; sexuality and sexology; domesticity and feminist politics. The appointed Lecturer will have a growing reputation in a relevant field and will demonstrate a strong research track record, including high quality publications and the ability to attract external funding. The Lecturer will have the opportunity to develop research collaborations with colleagues in complementary disciplines in the University of Birmingham's College of Arts and Law, other leading Higher Education Institutions and in non-HEIs including national and international galleries, museums and archives.



Socio-Legal Studies

Job Ref: 36480

Priority Area Lead: Professor Andrew Sanders

Birmingham Law School is a thriving and ambitious research community; in the REF2014 national research audit, a large proportion of our work was classed as world-leading. The School supports a range of research interests, including Criminal Justice, Public Law and Human Rights, European and International Law, and Health Law. Our work combines theoretical and public-facing research, as well as academic and professional education. Our long tradition of socio-legal work dates back to the 1960s when the Institute of Judicial Administration was one of the first empirically-oriented units to be established in a UK Law School. The School now has a wide range of socio-legal scholars in civil, criminal and international spheres of work, some of it theoretical, some empirical and much combining elements of both. The School now seeks to fortify its critical mass of socio-legal academics by making an appointment in the Enhanced Early Career Lecturer scheme. The appointed Lecturer will have a growing reputation in a relevant field and will demonstrate a strong research track record, including high quality publications and the ability to attract external funding. Experience with both quantitative and qualitative methods would be desirable, as would experience of working in project teams. Applicants with any substantive specialism will be welcomed.



Law and globalisation

Job Ref: 36480

Priority Area Lead: Professor Andrew Sanders

Birmingham Law School is a thriving and ambitious research community with considerable strength in International, Comparative and EU law. Ongoing projects in these areas include: international dispute resolution mechanisms; post-civil war reconstruction; the regulation of state intervention in the economy; international investment law; international criminal law; and a range of European subjects. In the REF2014 national research audit, a large proportion of our work was classed as world-leading. Our vision is to further enhance our expertise and reputation in this broad specialism, and to support this we aim to appoint both a senior subject leader and an Enhanced Early Career Lecturer. In particular, we encourage applicants to the Lectureship with expertise in global law, comparative law, or law and development. The appointed Lecturer will have a growing reputation in a relevant field and will demonstrate a strong research track record, including high quality publications and the ability to attract external funding. Applicants with any substantive specialism will be welcomed.



English Literature – Long 19th Century

Job Ref: 36481

Priority Area Lead: Professor Andrzej Gasiorek

The School of English, Drama and American and Canadian Studies (EDACS) is a vibrant and diverse research community, with strengths in many areas including: Early Modern literature; editing and the material text; Modernism; American Literature; Postcolonial studies; and Digital Humanities. In the REF2014 national research audit we were recognized as one of the top research departments in the country. As a forward-thinking School, we have made substantial investment in a number of new appointments across a wide range of subjects, and the present call for an Enhanced Early Career Lecturer offers further evidence of our ambition and of our commitment to delivering the highest quality research and education. The Department's vision is to develop its work in nineteenth-century literary studies over the next five years and to develop a group of scholars producing world-class research in this area. The Lecturer will be expected to play a major role in building the Department's intellectual reputation and academic profile by producing first-rate scholarship, contributing to its international research profile, applying for research funding, and enhancing its teaching.

