

**Faculty of Biological Sciences
School of Molecular and Cellular Biology**

**Summer Research Placement
8 weeks, between June and August 2022**

Job Summary

Stipend is £200 per week.

**Informal enquiries may be made to Dr Samantha Hover
(s.e.hover@leeds.ac.uk)**

To apply, please send your CV and a covering letter (200-300 words maximum)

Closing Date: Noon on 28th January 2022

Interviews: Beginning of March 2022

Job Description

Reports to: Dr Samantha Hover

Main Duties and Responsibilities

We are interested in understanding the mechanism by which Influenza A virus (IAV) transports newly synthesised genomic segments within host cells. This process is required for bundling of the 8 individual genomic segments and packaging into new virions. Understanding this mechanism is key to understanding the process by which co-infection of two IAV strains can generate a new pandemic strain. It was previously reported that IAV infection of mammalian host cells remodels the endoplasmic reticulum and generates vesicles coated in IAV genomic segments, termed irregularly coated vesicles (ICVs), in order to facilitate viral genome transport (PMID:29123131).

We are looking for a candidate to carry out a short lab-based research project focusing on determining the constituents of these ICVs. The project will be based in Dr Juan Fontana's lab alongside postgraduate research students and staff, allowing the candidate to join the thriving research environment and experience state-of-the-art facilities. The selected candidate is expected to attend the lab on weekdays, perform experiments and participate in group seminars. The project will primarily involve the use of fluorescent markers to determine the cellular and viral components of ICVs. This will allow the chosen candidate to gain experience in a number of techniques including tissue culture, immunofluorescence, virology and microscopy. Assistance and training will be provided for the specific techniques involved, however the candidate once trained will have the opportunity to work independently.

Person Specification

Essential

- Be in the process of completing an undergraduate degree in the field of biological sciences or an allied discipline.
- Previous experience in a laboratory, and a demonstrated ability to accurately use pipettes and basic lab equipment, for example a microscope.
- Ability to execute a protocol precisely and work independently.
- Attention to detail, good time management and organisation skills.
- A clear ambition to continually develop their professional skillset and an eagerness to learn scientific techniques.

Desirable

- Experience in immunofluorescence and immunoblotting techniques.
- Experience using a confocal microscope.
- Tissue culture experience with mammalian cell lines.
- Experience of working with viruses.

Additional Information

Details of the terms and conditions of employment for all staff at the university, including information on pensions and benefits, are available on the Human Resources web pages accessible via the links on the right hand side, or at <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/hr/index.htm>

Criminal Record Disclosures

A Criminal Records Disclosure is not required for this position. However, applicants who have unspent convictions must indicate this in the 'other personal details' section of the application.

Disabled Applicants

The post is located in the Faculty of Biological Sciences. Disabled applicants wishing to review access to the building are invited to contact the department direct. Additional information may be sought from the Recruitment Officer, email disclosure@leeds.ac.uk or tel + 44 (0)113 343 1723.

Disabled applicants are not obliged to inform employers of their disability but will still be covered by the Disability Discrimination Act once their disability becomes known.

Further information for applicants with disabilities, impairments or health conditions is available in the applicant guidance.

University Values

All staff are expected to operate in line with the university's values and standards, which work as an integral part of our strategy and set out the principles of how we work together. More information about the university's strategy and values is available at <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/comms/strategy/>