

THE PROFESSORSHIP OF MOLECULAR ENDOCRINOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY

1 The Professorship

Background

Following the retirement of Professor Ken Siddle we are seeking to appoint an internationally leading scientist (non-clinical) to the post of Professor of Molecular Endocrinology. The post-holder will be based in the Wellcome-MRC Institute of Metabolic Science (IMS), a cross-departmental research institute on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus (Co-Directors: Prof Stephen O’Rahilly FRS, FMedSci; and Prof Nick Wareham FMedSci). The IMS houses two MRC Units [Metabolic Disease Unit (MDU), Dir O’Rahilly; and Epidemiology Unit, Dir Wareham]. Laboratory and office space will be provided in the Metabolic Research Laboratories of the IMS which also houses the MDU (8 group leaders) and 17 other Principal Investigators. The position is open to scientists addressing questions relevant to the broad area of endocrinology and metabolism. The scientific approaches taken by the post holder are not prescribed and we seek suitable candidates from fields as diverse as biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, physiology, neuroendocrinology, systems biology, computational biology and population genetics. We seek a scientist whose work would complement and add value to the scientific programmes within the IMS and open up fruitful collaborations within the Institute and beyond.

Selection Criteria

Candidates will be considered for the post on the basis of selection criteria outlined below, which they are asked to address in their application.

- An outstanding research record of international stature in endocrinology and metabolism in their broadest senses
- The scientific approaches taken by the post holder are not prescribed and we seek suitable candidates from fields as diverse as biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, physiology, neuroendocrinology, systems biology, computational biology and population genetics
- The vision, leadership experience and enthusiasm to build on current strengths in maintaining and developing a leading research presence, and

an established record in attracting research grant support to further this development.

- The ability to further the academic planning and strategic development of endocrinology and metabolism in the University and, where appropriate, to facilitate its development within the UK.
- The ability to manage and interact effectively with staff and students at all levels.
- An enthusiastic commitment to the recruitment, training and mentoring of the next generation of researchers, including undergraduates, research students and postdoctoral research fellows

The post is open to a non-clinical scientist.

Candidates will hold a PhD or equivalent postgraduate qualification.

2 The University of Cambridge

The University of Cambridge is one of the world's oldest and most successful universities. We are a renowned centre for research, education, and scholarship that makes a significant contribution to society. The University is consistently ranked amongst the top universities in the world. Our affiliates have won more Nobel Prizes than any other University.

Our sustained pursuit of academic excellence is built on a long history of first-class teaching and research within a distinctive collegiate system. For eight centuries our ideas and innovations have shaped the world. Our principal goal is to remain one of the world's leading universities in an increasingly competitive global higher education sector. Today the University of Cambridge is at the centre of a cluster of over 4,300 businesses employing 58,000 people.

Our capital investment projects include the West Cambridge site, the North West Cambridge development and the growth of the Biomedical Campus in the south of the city. The North West Cambridge development and the growth of the Biomedical Campus in the south of the city. The North West Cambridge development includes the opening of a primary school – the first in the UK to be managed by a University. So we are deeply embedded in, and committed to serving, our local community. These are all conspicuous signs of a University that is not only adapting to new needs, but also anticipating the future.

3 The School of Clinical Medicine

The School of Clinical Medicine currently employs nearly 3,000 people, spanning all varieties of staff type from Academic Professors to administrative support.

In 1976 in response to the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Medical Education in the late 1960's, a complete medical course was re-established in Cambridge with the opening of the School of Clinical Medicine at the new Addenbrooke's Hospital site.

On 21 November 1980, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, the Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, officially opened the Clinical School Building which presently accommodates the medical library, lecture theatres and seminar rooms.

The University of Cambridge School of Clinical Medicine aspires to change the practice of medicine and improve biological understanding in a wide range of clinical specialties and scientific disciplines. Collaborative research, both within biomedicine and crossing the boundaries to the mathematical, physical and social sciences, is key to our approach. The School also supports key enabling technologies and facilities in imaging, bioinformatics and biological systems. The main areas of research interest are:

- Cancer research
- Cardio-Respiratory Medicine
- Cellular mechanisms of disease
- Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism Epidemiology, Public Health and
- Primary Care Genetics and Genetic Medicine Haematological and Transplantation Medicine
- Infection and Immunity
- Neurosciences and Mental Health
- Stems Cells and Regenerative Medicine.

The School aims to provide leadership in education, discovery and healthcare. It will achieve this through; inspirational teaching and training, outstanding basic and clinical research and integration of these to improve medical practice for both individual patients and the population.

The School will:

Through inspirational teaching and training, educate individuals who:

- will become exceptional doctors or biomedical scientists
- combine a depth of scientific understanding with outstanding clinical and communication skills demonstrate a caring, compassionate and professional approach to patients and the public and;

- are equipped to become future international leaders of their profession.

Through its commitment to the pursuit of excellence, support scientists of international standing in basic and clinical research aiming to:

- understand fundamental biology and thereby the mechanisms underlying disease integrate basic and clinical research
- apply a rigorous mechanism-based approach to clinical problems and
- innovate to solve the health challenges of our society.

4 The Institute of Metabolic Science-Metabolic Research Laboratories (Clinical Biochemistry) and its embedded MRC Metabolic Diseases Unit

The Wellcome-MRC Institute of Metabolic Science (IMS) was formally established in 2013. Two floors of the IMS house the Metabolic Research Laboratories (IMS-MRL) which includes an embedded MRC Metabolic Diseases Unit (MDU), both of which are directed by Prof Sir Stephen O’Rahilly. The MRC Epidemiology Unit (Dir. Prof Nick Wareham), is also based within the IMS. There is a strong track record of collaboration across the institute, creating an environment in which scientists have unique opportunities to explore the genetic, epigenetic and physiological bases of obesity and related metabolic and endocrine diseases.

Our research

Research at the IMS-MRL is dedicated to understanding the mechanisms responsible for obesity and related metabolic and endocrine diseases, with the specific aims of undertaking high quality basic science and clinical research to improve understanding of, and develop interventions to prevent and treat, these conditions.

It encompasses scientists working across the full spectrum of experimental approaches including cell biology, genetics, functional genomics, electrophysiology, animal models, basic and human neuroscience and experimental medicine. A major aim of the institute is to facilitate cross-disciplinary interactions between basic and clinical scientists to maximise the impact of our research and improve the quality of patient care.

Our investigators range from basic scientists undertaking underpinning research on fundamental aspects of cellular metabolism to clinical neuroscientists investigating human appetitive behaviour. Together, this creates a wide range of basic, clinical and translational research expertise and a superbly enriching research environment that benefits from established links with research institutes throughout the Cambridge area, such as with the MRC Epidemiology Unit and Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute

4.2 Teaching

Many of our scientists participate in undergraduate lecturing and supervision and undergraduate research projects are frequently hosted in the Institute. Our scientists participate in leadership of the University's MSc course in genomic medicine and support postgraduate students for higher research degrees (both MPhil and PhD) by supervision or informal instruction.

Although membership of one of Cambridge's 31 colleges is not automatic with appointment, professors are usually given the opportunity to explore opportunities at a range of colleges once they have settled into their University post. Membership of a College adds an important social and intellectual dimension for many of the academic staff.

4.3 Staffing:

The IMS-MRL has ~220 scientific, technical and administrative staff and PhD students, including 25 Principal Investigators (20 of whom have their primary base in the IMS).

5 General Information about certain conditions of appointment and certain University policies/regulations is attached.

6 Further Information

It is suggested that prospective candidates might wish to include the following amongst those they consult:

Professor Stephen O'Rahilly so104@medschl.cam.ac.uk
Professor Fiona Gribble fmg23@cam.ac.uk

7 Procedure for Appointment

The appointment will be made by a Board of Electors, chaired by the Vice-Chancellor or his deputy, with a membership which includes members of the Department, members of cognate Departments and external experts.

All applications will be acknowledged. The Board of Electors will decide how they wish to proceed towards making an election, which may include interviews and/or presentations. Short-listed candidates may be invited to visit the Department, to give a seminar on their work and meet prospective colleagues, prior to a meeting of the Board.

Candidates will be informed of the progress of their applications as agreed by the Electors.

It is anticipated that the successful candidate will take up appointment on 1 October 2021 or as soon as possible thereafter.

8 Enquiries and Applications

Informal enquiries about this Professorship may be directed to Professor Sir Stephen O’Rahilly, Director of the IMS-MRL and MRC Metabolic Diseases Unit and Head of the Department of Clinical Biochemistry, Cambridge, telephone +44 (0)1223) 36855 or email so104@medschl.cam.ac.uk

Further information on the University is available at the following address:
www.cam.ac.uk

Applications, consisting of a letter of application together with a statement of current and future research plans, a curriculum vitae and a publications list, should be made online no later than 15 March 2021.

If you are unable to apply online, please contact the Human Resources, University Offices, The Old Schools, Cambridge, CB2 1TT (email professorships@admin.cam.ac.uk).

GENERAL INFORMATION

All appointments to University Offices are subject to the Statutes and Ordinances of the University.

A Salary

Salary on appointment will be determined by the Vice-Chancellor at the appropriate point on the University's salary spine for grade 12, taking account of the criteria for the respective contribution band. Professorial salaries are reviewed periodically, on the basis of research, teaching and general contribution, by the Vice-Chancellor with the assistance of a small Advisory Committee.

There is a normal sabbatical entitlement of one term in seven on full pay, subject to the University regulations.

B Headship of the Department

Should a Professor be appointed to the Headship of a Department, a pensionable payment in addition to salary is made.

C Recruitment Incentive

The University has a scheme whereby a single recruitment incentive payment may be made on appointment at the Vice-Chancellor's discretion.

D Removal Expenses

If the person appointed is not resident in Cambridge, a contribution from University funds towards expenditure incurred in removal to Cambridge to take up a University office will be made.

E Consultancy Work

The University's policy on consultancy work is that consultancy arrangements must be entered into privately between the employee and the organisation concerned. The consultancy work must not interfere with the duties required of the officer under the officer's contract of employment with the University. Consultancy work is not covered by the University's insurances, even when the University has knowledge that such work is being done. The University must not be regarded as being directly or indirectly involved in any consultancy arrangement through the use of University letterheads, advice given or work done in the individual's capacity as an employee of the University. Individuals undertaking private or consultancy work are advised to take out personal insurance.

Alternatively, professional indemnity cover may be obtained by channelling private work through the University company Cambridge Enterprise Ltd. Anyone wishing to do so should, in the first instance, contact Cambridge Enterprise at www.enterprise.cam.ac.uk.

F Professorial Fellowships

The great majority of Professors at Cambridge hold a professorial fellowship of a college. Although election to a fellowship is a matter for an individual college, the University takes active steps to draw to the attention of Heads of House the names of those Professors eligible for election. The Scheme for newly-appointed University Officers seeking a College Fellowship is set out at: <https://www.ois.cam.ac.uk/uto-scheme/guidance-for-applicants/view>

In seeking the views of referees, their permission will be sought for the release of their comments on the successful candidate if it were to be requested by the professorial fellowship electors of a college.

G Health screening on appointment to University Office and in the case of University Officers undertaking a change of duties

Offers of appointment made to prospective University officers whose work will fall within certain categories are conditional on the completion of a medical questionnaire and, if necessary, on a satisfactory health check by the Occupational Health Service.

Only the person elected will be asked to complete the questionnaire at the time of election.

H Family friendly policies and benefits

The University has a range of family friendly policies to aid employee's work-life balance including maternity, paternity and parental leave, flexible working and career break schemes. In addition, childcare vouchers, access to two nurseries and a holiday play scheme are available through the Childcare Office to help support University employees with childcare responsibilities. Further information can be found at: <http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/hr/staff/benefits/family.html>

I Eligibility to work and reside in the UK

UK immigration procedures stipulate that an employer may not consider the appointment of any person unless they have seen evidence of their immigration status. Accordingly, shortlisted candidates, whatever their nationality, will be asked to provide such evidence at an appropriate stage in the recruitment procedure.

J Equal Opportunities Information

The University of Cambridge appoints solely on merit. No applicant for an appointment in the University, or member of staff once appointed, will be treated less favourably than another on the grounds of sex (including gender reassignment), marital or parental status, race, ethnic or national origin, colour, disability (including HIV status), sexual orientation, religion, age or socio-economic factors.

K Information if you have a Disability

The University welcomes applications from individuals with disabilities. Our recruitment and selection procedures follow best practice and comply with disability legislation.

The University is committed to ensuring that applicants with disabilities receive fair treatment throughout the recruitment process. Adjustments will be made, wherever reasonable to do so, to enable applicants to compete to the best of their ability and, if successful, to assist them during their employment. We encourage applicants to declare their disabilities in order that any special arrangements, particularly for the selection process, can be accommodated. Applicants or employees can declare a disability at any time.

Applicants wishing to discuss with or inform the University of any special arrangements connected with their disability can, at any point in the recruitment process, contact, Dr Gosia Wloszycka, who is responsible for the administration of the recruitment process for this position, by email on mw425@admin.cam.ac.uk

L Residence

It is a requirement of the role that you are resident in the University during term-time. Further information can be found here:

<http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/univ/so/2018/chapter11-section1.html#heading2-5>