Research Technician
Department of Biology

Closing date: 26 March 2018
Interview date: 11 April 2018
Vacancy reference: 6487
INTRODUCTION

We are seeking a highly motivated and talented Research Technician to join Professor Ian Hitchcock's laboratory in the Department of Biology at the University of York.

The project, funded by Cancer Research UK, will focus on the development of Philadelphia chromosome-negative myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPNs), a group of haematological malignancies characterized by increases in platelets and/or erythrocytes.

As a research technician, you will provide support to Professor Hitchcock and other postdoctoral and postgraduate researchers in his laboratory. You will have a degree in biological sciences or equivalent qualification and relevant post qualification laboratory experience. You will be experienced in a range of cellular and molecular techniques including cell culture, PCR, flow cytometry and molecular cloning. Skills and experience in lab management and animal work are also highly desirable. A willingness to develop skills in other laboratory techniques that are required as the project develops is also essential.

For informal enquiries please email Professor Ian Hitchcock (ian.hitchcock@york.ac.uk)

This post is full time, initially for up to 2 years 8 months (with a possible extension to 5 years 8 months). This is a grade 5 post, with salary in the range of £24,983 - £30,688 per year depending on experience.
Main purpose of the role

To provide technical and scientific support to a research project and/or programmes; to assist with and take responsibility for the organisation, housekeeping and operational management of the laboratory.

Key responsibilities

(Role holders will be required to undertake some or all of the duties below)

- Plan and perform experiments in accordance with the aims and objectives of the project and/or programme and use a range of scientific techniques, processes and procedures within the scope of the role
- Support University research staff in their research, through the independent application of specialist scientific techniques
- Write and maintain accurate records of the research being undertaken, using software packages such as Microsoft Word and Excel; maintain own laboratory records in accessible form
- Prepare written summaries of the research activities undertaken; communicate and make presentations within the research group, at meetings, and other recognised avenues as appropriate
- Provide technical advice, in relation to the research and the techniques used, to other staff members within the wider research team
- Be responsible for the maintenance, repair and operation of laboratory facilities / equipment, and contribute to the organisation, housekeeping and operational management of the laboratory; maintain stocks of consumables
- Provide laboratory inductions, ongoing training, supervision and technical support for undergraduate and postgraduate students, members of staff and visitors using the laboratory facilities and equipment
- Develop laboratory protocols, standard operating procedures and maintenance schedules for laboratory equipment, and be responsible for laboratory operational health and safety processes and procedures
- Responsible for keeping own knowledge and understanding up to date in the field of specialism; translating knowledge of advances in the subject area into research activity
- The post holder may be required to undertake others duties within the scope and grading of the post
## PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A degree in a relevant science subject</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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### Knowledge

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<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Database management</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Knowledge of lab safety regulations and procedures, COSHH</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Knowledge of modern analytical techniques</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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### Skills, abilities and competencies

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<th>Essential / Desirable</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Cell and Molecular biology techniques, including cell culture, PCR and cloning</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Competency in data handling and archiving</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to work under pressure while still providing high quality work with attention to detail</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to work independently, yet in close collaboration with other scientists, particularly researchers working on related topics.</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Uses initiative to solve unusual or complex problems</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Planning and organisation skills, including the ability to meet deadlines</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Good documentation skills; accurate record keeping</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>A high standard of written and verbal communication skills in English</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Ability to understand and interpret scientific literature and data</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Experience in mouse handling and minor procedures (PIL A&amp;B)</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<td>Ability to train other people</td>
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### Experience

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<tr>
<td>Working in a research group</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Familiarity with general laboratory management including ordering consumables</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Keeping concise and accurate laboratory records</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Operating modern analytical equipment</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<td>Carrying out risk assessments</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<td>Several months of laboratory work, preferably in at least two different laboratories</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<td>Maintaining a mouse colony</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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<td>Supervising undergraduate project students</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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### Personal attributes

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<tr>
<td>Responsible, reliable, and highly motivated</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Willingness to learn new techniques and keep up to date with developments in own field of expertise</td>
<td>Essential</td>
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<td>Willingness to, on occasion and as required by experiments, work flexible hours</td>
<td>Desirable</td>
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THE DEPARTMENT

Centre for Immunology and Infection
www.york.ac.uk/cii

The Centre for Immunology and Infection Unit (CII) is an Interdepartmental Research Centre created by the Hull York Medical School and the Department of Biology at the University of York. Research within the CII ranges from fundamental studies on parasitology, microbiology and haematology through to first-in-man clinical research. Our aim is to develop a greater understanding of the processes underlying chronic infectious disease and haematological malignancies, and thus to develop new approaches to prevention and treatment.

Supported by major infrastructure investment the Centre was established in 2004 and expanded into additional purpose built accommodation in 2010. Within the current 2000m2 of research and office space, we have excellent facilities for research on ACDP HG3 organisms. Proximity to the Biosciences Technology Facility and Biological Services Facility of the Dept. of Biology ensure ready access to state of the art and well-supported cutting edge technology platforms (http://www.york.ac.uk/biology/technology-facility/) and animal facilities (to HG3). Access to human tissues (blood, biopsies) is facilitated through our shared investment in the York Clinical Research Facility (http://www.crfyork.nhs.uk) and the associated Research Tissue Bank (housed within the CII).

Department of Biology
www.york.ac.uk/depts/biol/

The 2014 REF placed The Department of Biology at the University of York in the Top 10 in the UK; 1st for impact outside academia with our research having a major influence on environmental policy, industry and health; demonstrating our strengths across the biological sciences, from ecology to biochemistry, biotechnology and biomedical sciences.

Biology at York is in fourth place in the Guardian UK University Guide 2015 league table. The University of York is also ranked fourth place in the 2015 Complete University Guide.

The Department of Biology covers the spectrum of contemporary biological sciences with no internal barriers, and collaboration within the Department is strongly encouraged. Our Department comprises approximately 54 academic staff, 2 independently funded research fellows, 76 research associates, 170 graduate students, 166 support (technical, professional and administrative) staff, and
approximately 620 undergraduates. Several senior positions are funded by charities or industry.

The Department has successfully continued to establish new laboratory space and refurbish our existing space. A new £6M teaching wing has currently been constructed and we have ambitious future plans to continue the development of our buildings and laboratories.

A further major £25M development included the establishment of the Technology Facility which provides ready access to a wide range of cutting edge equipment, technology and associated expertise. With six specialist laboratories, 2,000m² of laboratory space and dedicated Laboratory Heads and technicians, the Technology Facility is an integrated part of how we undertake research in the Department. The six laboratories comprise: Imaging and Cytometry, Proteomics, Genomics, Protein Production, Molecular Interactions, and Bioinformatics. Full details of the Technology Facility can be found at http://www.york.ac.uk/biology/technology-facility/

The Department strives to address gender inequalities and ensure that there is a culture that supports equality and encourages better representation throughout the department. Support for women at all stages of their career is recognised as being extremely important.

For further information please refer to our information on Athena Swan

Further information about the department is available at: http://www.york.ac.uk/biology/

The Department of Biology operates a set of family-friendly policies and welcomes applications that are made on a part-time and job share basis. We will do our best to accommodate such requests where possible.
Founded on principles of excellence, equality and opportunity for all, the University of York opened in 1963 with just 230 students. In 2018 it is the home of more than 17,000 students across more than 30 academic departments and research centres. Since opening over fifty years ago, we have become one of the world’s leading universities and a member of the prestigious Russell Group.

We are consistently recognised as one of the leading Higher Education Institutes and are ranked 16th in the Times & Sunday Times league table (2017). The University of York has won six Times Higher Education (THE) Awards and five Queen’s Anniversary Prizes.

The University is proud of its association with Athena SWAN, holding 12 awards in support of gender equality, representation and success for all, with gold awards for Chemistry and Biology and a University-wide bronze award.

Of 154 universities that took part in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) in 2014, The University of York ranked 14th overall and 10th for the impact of our research. The University is consistently in the top ten UK research universities and attracts over £60m a year of funding from research alone.

Our vision is to make the University of York a world leader in the creation of knowledge through fundamental and applied research, the sharing of knowledge by teaching students from varied backgrounds and the application of knowledge for the health, prosperity and well-being of people and society.
Attractive workplace

Centred around the picturesque village of Heslington on the edge of the city of York, our colleges are set in an attractive landscaped campus. York enjoys a safe, friendly atmosphere with facilities including bars, shops, theatres and concert halls all within easy walking distance.

The University has undergone an unprecedented period of expansion and renewal since 2000. We have invested in twenty new buildings on the original campus and have completed the first and second phases of a £750m campus expansion. Our investment in new colleges, teaching and learning spaces, laboratories, research facilities and a new sports village mean there has never been a better time to join us.

During this period of change we’ve worked hard to retain our friendly, informal and collegiate atmosphere, which is important to our core values of inclusivity and interdisciplinarity.

We have a thriving international community and are committed to providing staff moving to York with as much support as possible through our Relocation Package and Welcome Officers.

The University is committed to promoting a diverse and inclusive community - a place where we can all be ourselves and succeed on merit. We offer a range of family friendly, inclusive employment policies, flexible working arrangements, staff engagement forums, campus facilities and services to support staff from different backgrounds.

For further information please visit our employee benefit pages
THE CITY AND THE REGION

The City of York
Internationally acclaimed for its rich heritage and historic architecture, York's bustling streets are filled with visitors from all over the world. Within its medieval walls you will find the iconic gothic Minster, Clifford's Tower and the Shambles - just a few of the many attractions.

But York isn't just a great place to visit - it's also a great place to live and work. While nourishing a vibrant cosmopolitan atmosphere, York still maintains the friendly sense of community unique to a small city.

Visit [www.visityork.org](http://www.visityork.org) for more information on the city of York.

Shopping, culture and entertainment
York boasts specialist and unique boutiques but also all the high street stores on its busy shopping streets. Alongside them you will find cinemas, theatres, an opera house, art galleries, a vast range of restaurants, live music venues and clubs. York is particularly renowned for its multitude of pubs and bars, from the modern to the medieval.

Housing and schools
Whether you choose to live close to the city, in one of the surrounding villages or further afield, you will find a wide range of housing within comfortable distance of York and the University. For families, the area has a range of excellent schools both in the state and independent sector.

Great location
York is one of Britain's best-connected cities. Halfway between London and Edinburgh on the East Coast mainline, on intercity trains you can reach London King’s Cross in less than two hours and Edinburgh in two and a half hours. York is also well served by road links, and it is easily accessible from the A1, M1 and the M62.

For those travelling from overseas, Manchester Airport is two hours away and Heathrow Airport just three and a half. Flights from nearby Leeds Bradford Airport provide easy access to mainland Europe. By Eurostar from London St Pancras, Paris is just over six hours away.

Yorkshire
The Lonely Planet guide recently declared Yorkshire the third best region in the world to visit. There is something to cater to every taste, whether it be the rugged landscapes of the Moors or the Dales, the picturesque seaside towns of Scarborough and Robin Hoods Bay, the gothic architecture of Whitby or the vibrancy of cosmopolitan Leeds.
Apply online

- Go to https://jobs.york.ac.uk
- Find this job using reference 6487
- Complete the online application form

You will need to submit your completed application by midnight (local UK time) on 26 March 2018.

What will I need?

We will ask you for details of:

- your employment history
- relevant qualifications
- two referees

You need to be ready to show us how you meet the requirements of the job, either in a written statement and / or by answering questions.

Help and assistance

Direct any informal queries to

Professor Ian Hitchcock
ian.hitchcock@york.ac.uk or
biol-dmthub@york.ac.uk

If you have any questions about your application, contact the HR Services team:

recruitment@york.ac.uk

+44 (0)1904 324835