

## Offices of the Nuffield Professor of Medicine

<b>Job title</b>	John Black Senior Research Fellow in Parkinson's Disease
<b>Division</b>	Medical Sciences
<b>Department</b>	Nuffield Department of Medicine
<b>Location</b>	Old Road Campus, Headington, Oxford
<b>Grade and salary</b>	Competitive
<b>Hours</b>	Full time
<b>Contract type</b>	Fixed-term, 10 years
<b>Reporting to</b>	Professor Chas Bountra Professor of Translational Medicine and Pro-Vice Chancellor for Innovation.
<b>Funding</b>	The John Black Charitable Foundation
<b>Vacancy reference</b>	144347
<b>Additional Information</b>	The successful candidate will automatically be conferred with the title of Associate Professor at the University. This post comes with a generous start-up package.

## The role

We are seeking an established senior research leader in the field of molecular pathology of neurodegenerative diseases with a proven track record of scientific breakthroughs in their field

You will provide academic and strategic leadership in the molecular pathology of neurodegenerative diseases, with an emphasis upon Parkinson's disease. In making this appointment, we are seeking to build on our existing strengths in neuroscience research. You will play a leading role in driving forward our programme of work on validation and translation of therapeutic approaches for the neurodegenerative diseases.

It is anticipated that you will work at the level expected of a Professor in the University and in close collaboration with senior colleagues, internal and external to the University, and manage an internationally recognised research team. You will be referred to as the "John Black Senior Research Fellow" and will carry the title of Assistant Professor. The Research Fellow will be

responsible to Professor Chas Bountra, Professor of Translational Medicine and Pro-Vice Chancellor for Innovation.

Queries about the post should be addressed to Dr John Davis via his PA, Kate Humphrey, at [Kate.Humphrey@ndm.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Kate.Humphrey@ndm.ox.ac.uk) or telephone: +44 (0) 1865 612682. All enquiries will be treated in strict confidence; they will not form part of the selection decision.

## **The John Black Charitable Foundation**

The John Black Charitable Foundation was established to promote the advancement of translational research in Parkinson's disease with a particular emphasis on accelerating the discovery and testing of novel therapeutic approaches and on technology and facilities that will improve the treatment of patients. The John Black Foundation is supporting the funding for a research fellowship,

Located in laboratories on the Old Road Campus, Headington, Oxford, the fellow will be ideally located to collaborate with existing core facilities including the Target Discovery Institute, the UK-National Phenotypic Screening Centre, the ARUK Oxford Drug Discovery Institute, Structural Genomics Consortium, Big Data Institute and other Oxford University research departments and major hospitals.

## **Responsibilities**

As a Principal Investigator in Parkinson's disease you will be expected to develop a programme of research activities, and provide strategic leadership within the University in these research areas, in particular through substantive experimental programmes of which molecular-target specific validation must play a significant part. You will be a member of the University, Old Road Campus and Departmental community. You will be part of a lively and diverse neuroscience research community that ranges across multiple departments and from bench to bedside, and which performs to the highest international levels in research and publications. You will have access to the excellent research facilities which Oxford offers and in particular the core facilities operating within the institutes based on the Old Road Campus.

## **Research**

Develop, implement, and lead a world-class research programme of internationally leading research activities with some or all of the following components:

- Research focused on elucidating therapeutic approaches for the treatment of Parkinson's disease or of mechanisms which may underpin multiple neurodegenerative diseases, including Parkinson's disease.
- Molecular cell biology aimed at identifying cause and effect and pinpointing the role of signalling cascades and of specific proteins in the pathogenesis of neurodegenerative diseases.
- To translate findings and hypotheses through testing using preclinical models of disease, including behavioural and pathology endpoints, and human data/tissues.
- You will establish technical and neuroscience expertise complimentary to the existing strengths of the University of Oxford.

## **Academic leadership**

You will provide academic and strategic leadership in molecular and cellular neuroscience on the Old Road Campus. You will engage with the Oxford Parkinson's Disease Centre (lead PI's are Richard Wade-Martins and Michel Hu) and with neuroscientists based in the Departments of Psychiatry, Physiology, Anatomy & Genetics, Pharmacology, Biochemistry and the Nuffield Department of Clinical Neuroscience and would be expected to forge collaborative interactions across the network that strive to translate findings between experimental platforms. It is expected that you will already have an international reputation and rapidly become a thought leader within the University on the molecular pathology of neurodegenerative diseases and the identification of novel therapeutic approaches for the treatment of Parkinson's disease.

You will also capitalise and coordinate studies utilising the excellent platforms available, including the Big Data Institute and Oxford Genomics Centre, the Target Discovery Institute (includes genome wide CRISPR screens, proteomics and metabolomics, chemical biology) and Structural Genomics Consortium, in order to promote discoveries applicable to neurodegenerative diseases.

## **Research Supervision**

You will contribute to training within the University and will participate in research supervision for DPhil students. There are doctoral training schemes through which studentship posts may be offered.

## **Pre-employment screening**

All offers of employment are made subject to standard pre-employment screening, as applicable to the post.

If you are offered the post, you will be asked to provide proof of your right-to-work, your identity, and we will contact the referees you have nominated. You will also be asked to complete a health declaration (so that you can tell us about any health conditions or disabilities so that we can discuss appropriate adjustments with you), and a declaration of any unspent criminal convictions.

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/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/).

## **Hazard-specific / Safety-critical duties**

This job includes hazards or safety-critical activities. If you are offered the post, you will be asked to complete a health questionnaire which will be assessed by our Occupational Health Service (OHS), and the offer of employment will be subject a successful outcome of this assessment.

The hazards or safety-critical duties involved are as follows:

- Night working (11pm-6am)
- Lone Working
- Work in hot or cold environments
- Working with Ionising Radiation
- Regular manual handling
- Open food handling
- Working with category 3b or 4 lasers (laser safety class)
- Working with infectious pathogens (hazard group 2/3) - Hazard Group 3 pathogens
- Working with blood, human products and human tissues
- Work in clinical areas with direct contact with patients

- Work with allergens, Eg laboratory animals, pollen, dust, fish or insects etc.
- Work with any substance which has any of the following pictograms on their MSDS:



- Travel outside of Europe or North America on University Business

## Selection criteria

Applications will be judged against the criteria which are set out below and evidence of past success in the duties of the post. Applicants should make sure that their application shows very clearly how they believe that their skills and experience meet these criteria.

Oxford is committed to fairness, consistency and transparency in selection decisions. Chairs of selection committees will be aware of the principles of equality of opportunity and fair selection and there will be a member of each gender wherever possible.

- PhD/DPhil, with significant experience at a senior level.
- Demonstrable track record as a leading, internationally-recognised, researcher in the areas specified for the duties of the post, with evidence of a substantive record primary authorship in well cited original publications, in high-profile scientific journals or in leading subject specific journals concerned with neuroscience and neurodegenerative disease.
- A strong record of independently obtaining competitive, external grant research funding and evidence of providing strategic and scientific leadership.
- Experience of leading a substantial research group in the areas specified for the duties of the post.
- Evidence of successful translational research. Existing industrial links would be an advantage.
- Evidence of expertise and interest in supervising research at post graduate level in the study of human disease through genomics.
- Excellent and effective written and oral communication skills.
- Evidence of ability to develop productive interactions with other scientists, within or outside the host institution.

## 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, while providing all our staff with a welcoming and inclusive workplace that enables everyone to develop and do their best work. Recognising that diversity is our strength, 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 2016/17 exceeded £564m and we rank first in the UK for university spin-outs, with more than 130 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](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation)

## Nuffield Department of Medicine

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.

For more information please visit: [www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/home](http://www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/home)

The Department holds silver Athena Swan award to recognise advancement of gender equality: representation, progression and success for all.

## Medical Sciences Division

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](http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk)

## 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/research/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/research/).

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 must explain how you meet each of 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](mailto:recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk). Further help and support is available from [www.ox.ac.uk/about the university/jobs/support/](http://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](http://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/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/jobs/preemploymentscreening/).

### Data Privacy

Please note that any personal data submitted to the University as part of the job application process will be processed in accordance with the GDPR and related UK data protection legislation. For further information, please see the University's Privacy Notice for Job Applicants at: [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/privacynotices/job/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/privacynotices/job/). The University's Policy on Data Protection is available at: [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/universitypolicyondataprotection/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/universitypolicyondataprotection/).

### The University's policy on retirement

The University operates an Employer Justified Retirement Age (EJRA) for all academic posts and some academic-related posts. From 1 October 2017, the University has adopted an EJRA of 30 September before the 69<sup>th</sup> birthday for all academic and academic-related staff in posts at **grade 8 and above**. The justification for this is explained at: [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/).

For **existing** employees, any employment beyond the retirement age is subject to approval through the procedures: [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/end/retirement/acrelretire8+/).

There is no normal or fixed age at which staff in posts at **grades 1–7** have to retire. Staff at these grades may elect to retire in accordance with the rules of the applicable pension scheme, as may be amended from time to time.

### **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

### University Club and sports facilities

Membership of the University Club is free for all University staff. The University Club provides social, sporting and hospitality facilities. Staff can also use the University Sports Centre on Iffley Road at discounted rates, including a fitness centre, powerlifting room, and swimming pool. See [www.club.ox.ac.uk](http://www.club.ox.ac.uk) and [www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities](http://www.sport.ox.ac.uk/oxford-university-sports-facilities).

### Information for international staff

The University offers support and advice to international staff, including a visa loan scheme to cover the costs of UK visa applications for staff and their dependents. See [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/permits/reimburse&loanscheme/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/permits/reimburse&loanscheme/).

### Information for staff new to Oxford

If you are relocating to Oxfordshire from overseas or elsewhere in the UK, the University's Welcome Service website includes practical information about settling in the area, including advice on relocation, accommodation and local schools. See [www.welcome.ox.ac.uk](http://www.welcome.ox.ac.uk).

### The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club

The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club is an organisation run by volunteers that aims to assist the partners of new staff to settle into Oxford and to provide them with an opportunity to meet people in the area. See [www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk](http://www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk).

### Childcare

The University has excellent childcare services with five University nurseries, as well as University-supported places at many other private nurseries. For full details including how to apply and the costs, see [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare).

### Family-friendly benefits

The University subscribes to My Family Care service through which staff are eligible to register for emergency back-up childcare and adultcare services, a 'speak to an expert' advice service and a wide range of guides and webinars through a website called the Work+Family space. See: [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/family/mfc/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits/family/mfc/).

### Disabled staff

We are committed to supporting members of staff with disabilities or long-term health conditions. For further details, including information about how to make contact, in confidence, with the University's Staff Disability Advisor, see [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/staff).

### Staff networks

The University has a number of staff networks including the Oxford Research Staff Society, BME staff network, LGBT+ staff network and a disabled staff network. You can find more information at [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/inpractice/networks/](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/inpractice/networks/).

### Additional benefits

Staff can enjoy a range of other benefits and discounts, including free entry to the Botanic Gardens and University colleges, and discounts at University museums. See [www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/personnel/staffinfo/benefits).