

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR



Job Title:	Assistant Professor
Department:	MRC/UVRI & LSHTM Research Unit
Faculty:	Bioinformatics
Location:	Entebbe, Uganda
FTE:	1.0
Grade:	G7
Accountable to:	Dr. Damien Tully, Associate Professor in Bioinformatics
Job Summary:	<p>The post-holder will be responsible for coordinating and supporting bioinformatics activities at the Unit and contribute to national and regional leadership in the area. They will support the Unit's high-performance computing facility – Uganda Medical Informatics Centre (UMIC) project. The postholder will develop and implement bioinformatics workflow that support various research projects in the Unit particularly those involving human genetics and immunoinformatics. This work is expected to lead to a series of papers. The post-holder will be responsible for leading training initiatives in bioinformatics and computing throughout the year. They will be expected to develop innovative approaches to bioinformatics research and to develop projects related to the Unit and aligned with capacity strengthening.</p> <p>Applicants are encouraged to contact Dr Damien Tully (Damien.Tully@lshtm.ac.uk) for an informal discussion prior to submitting a formal application.</p>

General Information

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) is one of the world's leading public health universities.

Our mission is to improve health and health equity in the UK and worldwide; working in partnership to achieve excellence in public and global health research, education and translation of knowledge into policy and practice.

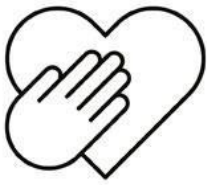
Staff and students are committed to helping create a more healthy, sustainable and equitable world for everyone, because we believe our shared future depends on our shared health.

We embrace and value the diversity of our staff and student population and seek to promote equity, diversity and inclusion as essential elements to improve health worldwide. We believe that when people feel respected and included, they can be more creative, successful, and happier at work. While we have more work to do, we are committed to building an inclusive workplace, a community that everyone feels a part of, which is safe, respectful, supportive and enables all to reach their full potential.

To find out more please visit our [Introducing LSHTM page](#).

Our Values

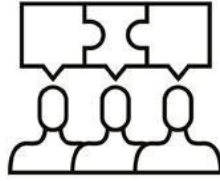
Our values establish how we aspire to achieve our mission both now and in the future - demonstrating what it means to work and study at LSHTM. Please visit our [LSHTM Values page](#) for further information.



**Act with
integrity**



**Embrace
difference**



**Work
together**



**Create
impact**

Faculty Information

LSHTM's MRC-funded Unit in Uganda is an internationally recognized Centre of excellence for research and training established in 1988, following a request from the Uganda Government to the United Kingdom (UK) Government to support the response to the emerging HIV crisis. Its mission is to conduct high-quality research that adds knowledge and leads to improved control of infectious and non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in Uganda, Africa and globally, through translation of scientific findings into policy and practice, and rigorous research capacity building.

The Unit employs about 60 researchers to deliver research projects of the highest quality, ranging from basic science and epidemiology to rigorous clinical trials for the prevention and management of diseases of public health importance in Africa. This research is conducted at three research Unit campuses, in Entebbe, on site with Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI), in Masaka and Kyamulibwa, as well as in field locations and at collaborating sites.

Since 2017, the Unit has trained 58 Master's and 44 PhD students from Uganda, other African countries and the UK. The Unit's research and capacity building success are supported through high-impact collaborations with partners in Uganda, the region, the UK and other countries globally.

The Unit joined LSHTM on the 1st February 2018 creating a new partnership boosting research capacity and access to cutting-edge resources to address current and emerging health issues in Africa and globally.

The portfolio of duties outlined below will vary in accordance with the academic expectations of the role, which may be varied from time to time, and agreed at your annual Performance and Development Review (PDR).

Job Description

Main Activities and Responsibilities

Knowledge Generation

1. To deliver high quality research & scholarship in your field of study, individually and in collaboration with others, by applying for external grants/fellowships from good¹ research funders, publishing peer-reviewed outputs as lead and co-author; and evaluating teaching practice;
2. To contribute to doctoral student supervision;
3. To manage research grants and promote and ensure compliance with good practice in relation to the conduct of research, the ethics policy, and other relevant LSHTM policies;
4. To support the development of early-career researchers;
5. Provide strong scientific and technical bioinformatics expertise that involves the analysis, interpretation and making genetic inferences of sequencing data to support human genomics and virological studies.
6. Provide scientific and technical expertise to lead research activities related to the identification of genetic contribution to complex diseases and biological characterization of emerging and re-emerging infections that are endemic or contribute to outbreaks in Africa.
7. Provide some expertise in human and pathogen sequencing.
8. To work as part of a multidisciplinary collaborative research team in delivering high quality research outputs for different research projects.
9. Prepare data reports and presentation of key findings (internally and externally).

Education

1. To deliver high quality, inclusive, research-informed teaching and assessment in relation to your specific subject and within the broader area covered by your department/disciplinary field;
2. To contribute to the improvement of the quality and inclusivity of LSHTM's education, by participating in the development of new and updated learning and, teaching materials or approaches, and/or improving assessment practices, and/or improving aspects of the student experience;
3. To support educational leadership and management by active participation in selected aspects of the curriculum, as appropriate, and by collaborating with professional services staff, centrally and in the Faculty, in carrying out relevant

¹ Good research funders are: Research Councils; Government Departments; NIHR; National and overseas charities recognised by HEFCE for QR; Overseas research councils or equivalent including NIH; EU; other agencies (eg NGOs, commercial companies) supporting commissioned research that is consistent with LSHTM's mission and meets LSHTM's cost recovery targets

administrative processes;

4. To take a leading role in the development and provision of bioinformatics training to in-house and to external users and stakeholders.
5. Train, mentor and supervise scientific and technical staff to contribute to human capacity development in the Unit and across campus. Be a leader in bioinformatics capacity building.
6. Apply for and support grant applications.
7. Assist in reviewing research protocols when requested.
8. Participate in planning and budgeting meetings for UMIC
9. Contribute to the long-term aims and scientific direction of the Unit through membership of senior management forums within the Unit.

Internal Contribution

1. To undertake activities that support the Department, Faculty or MRC Unit or LSHTM, including Committee membership;
2. To reflect LSHTM's EDI goals in your work and behaviour;
3. To participate in own PDR and undertake those of others;
4. Facilitate scientific collaboration internally within the Unit, LSHTM and across the UVRI campus in the areas of bioinformatics.

External Contribution

1. To demonstrate good external citizenship by contributing to the external academic community;
2. To promote knowledge translation and enterprise by participating in networks and activities that disseminate research-based knowledge beyond academia;
3. To demonstrate continuation of collaboration with relevant organisations with strategic collaboration with the Unit including Wellcome Trust Sanger, Kilifi/WT/KEMRI, and the Gambia Unit.

Professional Development and Training

1. To keep up-to-date with the latest research/thinking in your academic field and with changes to pedagogic practice within LSHTM and more generally;
2. To undertake and successfully complete the mandatory training required by LSHTM appropriate to the role;

General

All academic staff are free within the law to question and test received wisdom, and put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions, to enable LSHTM to engage in research and promote learning to the highest possible standards.

All staff at LSHTM are also expected to:

1. Act at all times in LSHTM's best interests;
2. Treat staff, students and visitors with courtesy and respect at all times;

3. Comply fully with LSHTM policies, procedures and administrative processes relevant to the role including when acting as Principal Investigator, accepting academic, managerial, financing and ethical responsibility for a project;
4. Uphold and support LSHTM's values (as set out in the LSHTM Strategy);
5. Act as ambassadors for LSHTM when hosting visitors or attending external events;
6. Any other duty commensurate with the grade of post.

Academic Expectations

All academic roles have a statement of academic expectations attached to each level. Please ensure that these have been read and understood. For further information please refer to the [Academic Expectations page](#).

The above list of duties is not exclusive or exhaustive and the role holder will be required to undertake such tasks as may reasonably be expected within the scope and grading of the role.

Role descriptions should be regularly reviewed to ensure they are an accurate representation of the role.

Person Specification

This form lists the essential and desirable requirements needed by the post holder to be able to perform the job effectively.

Applicants will be shortlisted solely on the extent to which they meet these requirements.

Essential criteria:

1. PhD degree with substantial post-doctoral experience in human genetics, bioinformatics, statistical genetics or related topic
2. Expertise in bioinformatics with a track record of scientific and computational innovation in the field of genomics
3. Proven capability for delivering bioinformatics training relating to the genomic analysis of big datasets
4. Contributions as lead and co-author in peer-reviewed outputs, as expected by the subject area/discipline in terms of types and volume of output; significant contributions to at least four outputs within the most recent 5 years which are at least internationally excellent²
5. Proven ability to work independently, as well as collaboratively as part of a research team, and to meet research deadlines
6. An understanding of the strategies for improving equity and inclusion in research and or learning and teaching
7. Evidence of excellent interpersonal skills, including ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing
8. Evidence of good organizational skills, including effective time management
9. Excellent programming skills e.g. Python, C++, Java, Perl or another coding language
10. Proficient in Linux and software version control systems (e.g. Git)
11. Proven track record of designing and implementing analytical pipelines to support the interpretation of genomic datasets
12. Commitment to working in, and supporting, a multidisciplinary unit and fostering collaboration and partnership.

Desirable criteria:

1. Experience of generating research income such as fellowships, and/or small project grants, and/or supporting grant applications of others
2. Some experience of supervising and supporting junior researchers and/or research degree students, and non-academic staff

² i.e. of a quality that would be rated highly in assessments of research quality such as those done by UK government, and in peer review processes used by funders

3. Some experience of undertaking teaching and assessment
4. Demonstrable evidence of promoting inclusion in research and or learning and teaching
5. A teaching qualification
6. Experience in building and leading informatics functions, including mentoring staff
7. Knowledge and experience of advanced statistical analyses including machine learning and artificial intelligence techniques.

Salary and Conditions of Appointment

The post is fixed term until 31 October 2026 and full-time 35 hours per week, 1.0 FTE. The post is funded by ROCHE and the MRC/UVRI & LSHTM Research Unit and is available immediately. The salary will be on the Academic scale, Grade 7 scale in the range £52,581 - £60,191 per annum pro rata (inclusive of London Weighting).

The post will be subject to the LSHTM terms and conditions of service. Annual leave entitlement is 30 working days per year, pro rata for part time staff. In addition to this there are discretionary "Wellbeing Days". Membership of the Pension Scheme is available.

LSHTM has a Hybrid Working Framework, which alongside agreed service requirements, enables teams to work more flexibly (if the role allows), promoting a greater wellbeing and work/life balance.

Application Process

Applications should be made on-line via our [jobs website](#). Applications should also include the names and email contacts of 2 referees who can be contacted immediately if appointed. Online applications will be accepted by the automated system until 10pm of the closing date. We regret that late applications cannot be accepted. Any queries regarding the application process may be addressed to jobs@lshtm.ac.uk.

The supporting statement section should set out how your qualifications, experience and training meet each of the selection criteria. Please provide one or more paragraphs addressing each criterion. The supporting statement is an essential part of the selection process and thus a failure to provide this information will mean that the application will not be considered. An answer to any of the criteria such as "Please see attached CV", "Yes" or "No" will not be considered acceptable and will not be scored.

Please note that if you are shortlisted and are unable to attend on the interview date it may not be possible to offer you an alternative date.

Asylum and Immigration Statement

This post is based overseas and candidates will be required to email a copy of their passport (and visa if applicable) to HR prior to their interview and if appointed will be asked to send a notarised copy of their passport prior to their start date.

Applicants will be required to have the right to work in the country in which the post is based (or be eligible to apply for a suitable work visa). The work permit application process will be supported by the Unit in Uganda.

Date amended: July 2025