

# OPPORTUNITY

## Reader in Membrane Bioscience

**Reference:** 0110-24

**Grade:** 10

**Salary:** £56,021 to £64,914 per annum depending on experience.

**Contract Type:** Fixed Term (5 Years)

**Basis:** Full Time

# Job description

## Job Purpose:

The newly established Aston Institute for Membrane Excellence (AIME) is a unique, interdisciplinary, intersectoral research and training hub for translational membrane science. AIME is supported by the Research England (RE) Expanding Excellence in England (E3) Programme and will synergistically combine world-leading expertise in membrane biology and novel polymer chemistries to establish a first-of-its-kind institute, expanding our distinctive excellence in computational membrane science, membrane structural determination and sustainable polymers research. Over the next five years, we will recruit 20 new colleagues to expand our new institute.

We now wish to recruit two academic colleagues to expand our research activities in the area of membrane bioscience that will build synergies within AIME. We particularly welcome applications from colleagues with track-records in computational membrane science or membrane biophysics. The level of appointment is Reader. The post holder will work closely with members of AIME across the Colleges of Engineering and Physical Sciences (EPS) and Health and Life Sciences (HLS) and is expected to contribute to, develop and enhance the research, scholarship and teaching activities of AIME either independently or as part of the team, through professional practice and expertise. In addition, the post holder will develop external links with regional UK and international bodies such as government agencies, schools, colleges, professional bodies, business and industry as appropriate to AIME's strategy.

The post is available for a fixed term of 5 years with an ideal start date of 1st August 2024. Subject to progress, a permanent academic contract will be available from 30th July 2029.

## Main Duties and Responsibilities

### Research

- ▶ To pursue and lead a developing internationally recognised personal research programme consistent with the research priorities of AIME.
- ▶ To have proven experience of securing external funding from prestigious funders including research councils, charities and the European Commission and a record of successfully leading and managing research projects, people and resources.
- ▶ To provide leadership and team building in the management of research projects.
- ▶ To lead colleagues to develop collaborative, interdisciplinary research work across the institute/college/university.
- ▶ To publish the outcomes of research in outlets of international standing.
- ▶ To identify sources of funding, develop and submit funding applications, and secure external research funding.
- ▶ To supervise and manage research projects.
- ▶ To conduct research capable of demonstrating impact e.g. research which has the potential to benefit the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life.
- ▶ To supervise postgraduate students at Masters and doctoral levels. To foster an environment which encourages research among students at postgraduate level.

## **Teaching**

- ▶ To cooperate with colleagues in the continuous review and development of programmes and the curriculum.
- ▶ To lead the development of curriculum and teaching materials for degrees in Chemistry, Biochemistry, Biosciences and/or Biotechnology.
- ▶ To be responsible for the design and content of specific areas of teaching and learning within the College's undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.
- ▶ To teach undergraduate and postgraduate students and to carry out the associated examining and assessment processes.
- ▶ To provide academic and pastoral support and advice to students.
- ▶ To promote the use of a range of methods and techniques in teaching, learning and assessment.
- ▶ To engage in the regular evaluation and development of modules for which the successful applicant has responsibility, in terms of content, delivery and assessment.
- ▶ To contribute to the introduction of a new Masters programme within the AIME remit.

## **Engagement**

- ▶ To liaise with external academic, commercial and policy partners in relation to research and teaching.
- ▶ To raise the profile of the research institute/college/university via outreach and engagement activities.
- ▶ To demonstrate potential for research impact and secure commercialisation, identifying and pursuing opportunities for translational research where appropriate to role and discipline.
- ▶ To build an established record of invited international keynote conference presentations and prestige lectures.
- ▶ To work towards commercialization of research via appropriate pursuit of Intellectual Property exploitation, where appropriate.

## **Other related activities and functions**

- ▶ To carry out specific AIME and College roles and functions as may be reasonably required, these being equitably distributed across the academic staff.
- ▶ To take part in the work of University or College Committees.
- ▶ To engage in training programmes in the University (e.g. through Staff Development) which are consistent with the needs and aspirations of the member of staff and AIME.
- ▶ To support diligently quality assurance measures within the University (e.g. by reviewing delivered modules annually, setting and receiving student feedback questionnaires).

- ▶ To undertake such other duties as may be reasonably requested and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.

#### **Additional responsibilities**

- ▶ To engage in continuous personal and professional development in line with the demands of the role, including undertaking relevant training and development activities to develop themselves and support the development of others.
- ▶ To ensure and promote the personal health, safety and wellbeing of staff and students.
- ▶ To carry out duties in a way which promotes fairness in all matters and which engenders trust.
- ▶ To promote equality of opportunity and support diversity and inclusion as well as working to support the University's environmental sustainability agenda and practices.

## Person specification

	Essential	Method of assessment
<b>Education and qualifications</b>	<p>A good first degree in a Biosciences or Biotechnology-related subject.</p> <p>PhD in a field related to AIME's strengths in membrane biosciences.</p> <p>A recognised teaching qualification/membership of Advance HE (formally known as the Higher Education Academy or HEA) at Fellow level as a minimum or sufficient experience commensurate with this level of Advance HE membership.</p>	Application form
<b>Experience</b>	<p>Significant experience of initiating and conducting research beyond doctoral level.</p> <p>A track record of sustainable research as evidenced by publication in international journals and the maintenance of a portfolio of grant income.</p> <p>A record of accomplishment of having secured a pipeline of research funds from external sources sufficient to maintain a productive research team.</p> <p>Proven experience of productive research collaborations in order to build critical mass and promote excellence in the School's research priority areas</p> <p>Successful supervision of PhD students to completion.</p> <p>Experience of teaching and assessing.</p>	Application form and interview
<b>Aptitude and skills</b>	<p>Ability to lead the development and implementation of research strategy.</p> <p>Excellent communication skills to build external contacts that will support research and teaching activity.</p> <p>Ability to harness IT as a research and</p>	Application form and interview

Essential	Method of assessment	
	<p>teaching tool.</p> <p>Ability to develop own teaching materials and contribute to course and programme development at undergraduate and postgraduate level.</p> <p>Ability to provide tutorial and counselling advice to undergraduate and postgraduate students.</p> <p>Familiarity with module and curriculum design methodologies and the ability to implement these effectively.</p> <p>A willingness to undertake further training as appropriate and to adopt new procedures as and when required.</p> <p>Commitment to observing the University's Equal Opportunities Policy at all times.</p> <p>Ability to attend the University as and when required for scheduled teaching, relevant meetings and student support.</p> <p>Ability to lead taught modules and programmes for undergraduate and postgraduate students.</p>	

# How to apply

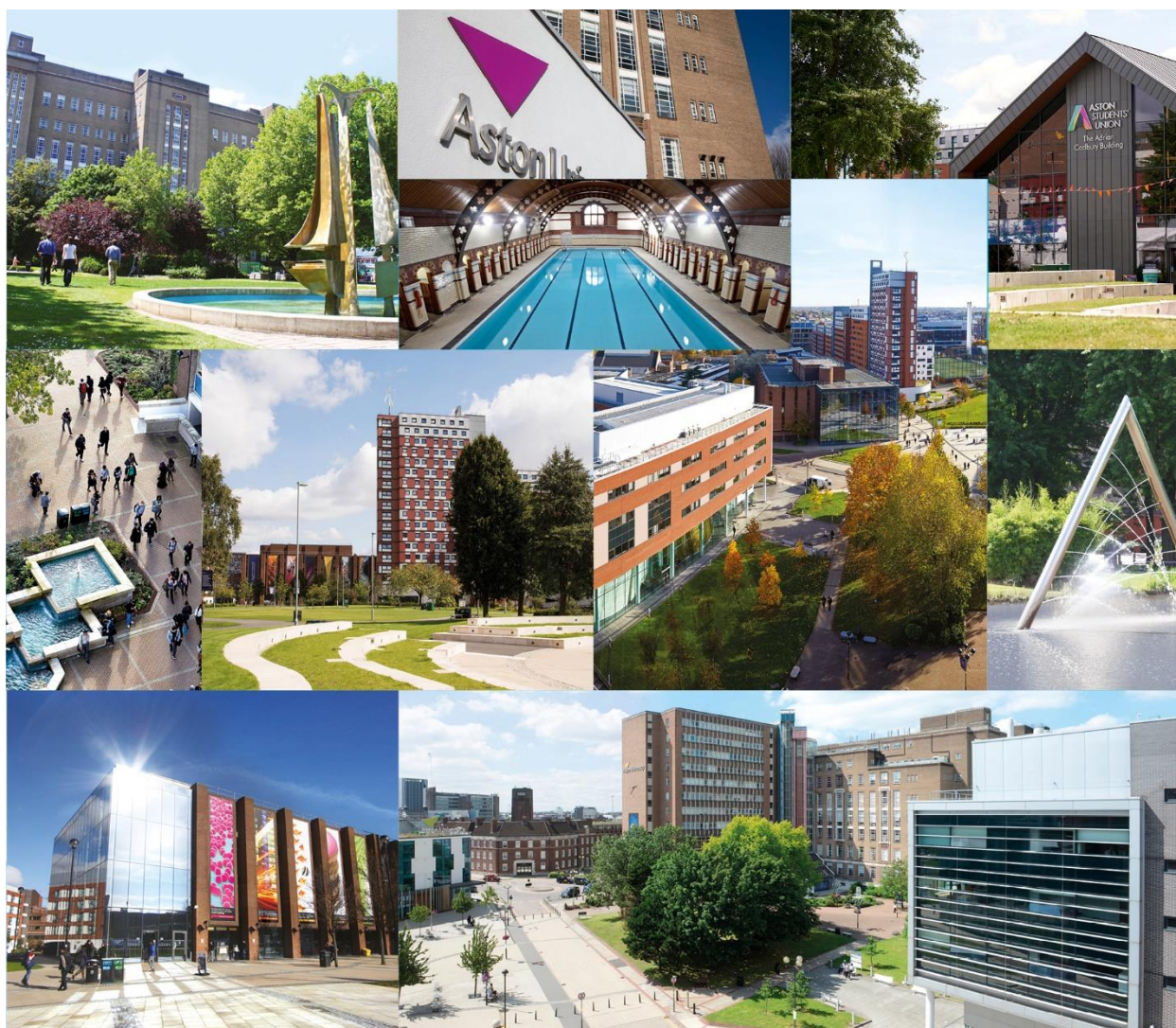
You can apply for this role online via our website <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/jobs>.

Applications should be submitted by 23:59pm on the advertised closing date.

All applicants must complete an application form, along with your CV.

Any CV sent direct to the Recruitment Team and Recruiting Manager will not be accepted.

If you require a manual application form then please contact the Recruitment Team via [jobs@aston.ac.uk](mailto:jobs@aston.ac.uk).



# Contact information

## Enquiries about the vacancy:

Name: Professor Paul Topham and Dr Matthew Derry

Job Title: Head of School and Lecturer in Chemistry

Email: [p.d.topham@aston.ac.uk](mailto:p.d.topham@aston.ac.uk) and [m.derry@aston.ac.uk](mailto:m.derry@aston.ac.uk)

## Enquiries about the application process, shortlisting or interviews:

Recruitment Team via [jobs@aston.ac.uk](mailto:jobs@aston.ac.uk) or 0121 204 4500.

# Additional information

Visit our website <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr> for full details of our salary scales and benefits Aston University staff enjoy

**Salary scales:** <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/payroll-and-pensions/salary-scales/index>

**Benefits:** <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/Benefits-and-Rewards/index>

**Working in Birmingham:** <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/birmingham>

**Employment of Ex-Offenders:** Under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, a person with a criminal record is not required to disclose any spent convictions unless the positions they applying for is listed an exception under the act.

## Eligibility to work in the UK:

### New immigration system from 1 January 2021

A new immigration system has been introduced for people arriving in the UK from EEA countries with effect from 1 January 2021. In addition to those who have always required a visa, EU citizens who were not resident in the UK before 31 December 2021 will need to get a visa in advance.

You can find more information [here](#)

Candidates should check their eligibility to enter or remain in the UK in advance of making any job application via the [UKVI website](#). Before applying you should ensure that you meet the requirements, including meeting the English Language requirements. If you do not meet the eligibility criteria, any application for a work visa would be unsuccessful.

If you require a visa to work in the UK the most common types of visa are:

- Skilled Worker Visa <https://www.gov.uk/skilled-worker-visa>
- Global Talent Visa

If you are a leader or potential leader in one of the following fields you may be eligible to apply for a Global Talent Visa:



- Academia or Research
- Arts and Culture
- Digital Technology

Please click the following link for further information and to check your eligibility for this visa. <https://www.gov.uk/global-talent>

**Equal Opportunities:** Aston University promotes equality and diversity in all aspects of its work. We aim to ensure, through our admissions policies for students, and our staff recruitment and selection processes that we encourage applications from all groups represented in the wider community at a local, national and international level.

The University will endeavour not to discriminate unfairly or illegally, directly or indirectly, against student or potential students, staff or potential staff. This commitment applies to all functions of the University and to any stage of an individual's career.

An Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form is included within the application form. Data you provide on the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form will be included in a general database, for statistical monitoring purposes, enabling the University to monitor the effectiveness of its Policy, Codes of Practice and Guidelines on Equal Opportunities in Employment. Individuals will not be identified by name.

**Data Protection:** Your personal data will be processed in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation ((EU) 2016/679) ("GDPR"). The University's Data Protection Policy and Privacy Notices, including the Job Applicant Privacy Notice can be found at <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/data-protection>. Your application will only be used to inform the selection process, unless you are successful, in which case it will form the basis of your personal record with the University which will be stored in manual and/or electronic files. Information in statistical form on present and former employees is given to appropriate outside bodies.

Full details of our terms and conditions of service and associated policies and procedures are available online at <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/staff-public/hr/policies>

**Aston University**  
**Birmingham**  
**B4 7ET, UK.**  
**+44 (0)121 204 3000**  
**aston.ac.uk**



**Where change  
gets real.**