

# Robertson Chair of Industrial Biotechnology

Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical  
Sciences

University of Strathclyde

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# Welcome Letter

Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in this key role in the Faculty of Science at the University of Strathclyde.

Strathclyde is a leading international technological university which is recognised for its strong research links with industry, business and the public sector, commitment to enterprise and knowledge exchange, and the development of skills and knowledge fit for the challenges of the 21 century.

Our contributions to excellence in research, knowledge exchange and education have been recognised through a series of institutional awards, including the Times Higher Education UK University of the Year 2012, Entrepreneurial University of the Year 2013 and Business School of the Year 2016. Also, the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF) assessment confirmed that we are in the top 20 research intensive universities in the UK.

We are now seeking to appoint an internationally leading Professor to the role of Robertson Chair of Industrial Biotechnology. The Chair was endowed by the Robertson Trust in 1988 and will become vacant owing to the retirement of Professor Peter Halling. For this prestigious role, the Professor will have an independent and internationally-recognised research portfolio in Industrial Biotechnology. We are looking for a proven academic leader, who has the ability to enhance and build upon outstanding research intensive activity, and lead the University's contributions to the Industrial Biotechnology Innovation Centre (IBioIC), which is hosted at Strathclyde.

I hope you will be excited by the opportunity to become the next Robertson Chair in Industrial Biotechnology and join a successful international technological university. If so, please contact me for informal discussions.

Best wishes



**Professor David Littlejohn**  
**Executive Dean of Science**

**REF** UK TOP 20 RESEARCH-  
INTENSIVE UNIVERSITY

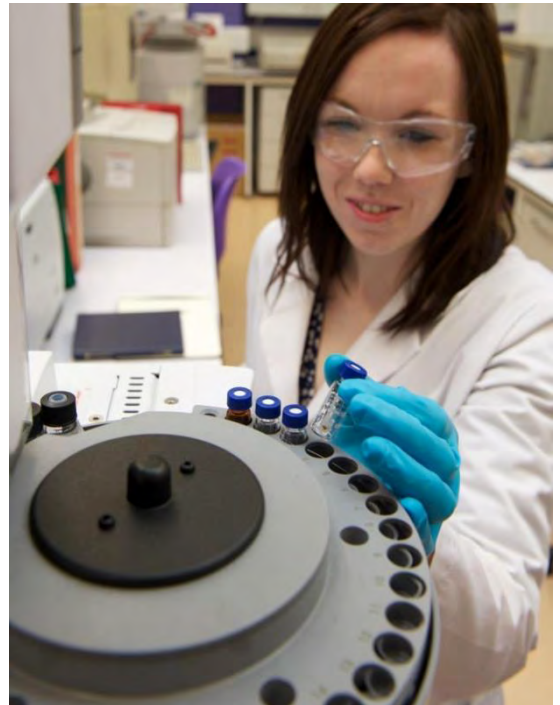
**THE** UK UNIVERSITY OF THE  
YEAR WINNER

**THE** UK ENTREPRENEURIAL  
UNIVERSITY OF THE  
YEAR WINNER

# The Role of Robertson Chair

The Robertson Chair will be an internationally acknowledged expert and leader in the field of Industrial Biotechnology and will direct universally acclaimed research programmes in this important and developing subject.

The Robertson Chair, having published extensively in leading international journals, will successfully pursue funding opportunities from both UK and international sources. The Chair will take a lead role in ensuring teaching and learning excellence in industrial biotechnology and related topics in undergraduate and postgraduate programmes including the MSc in Industrial Biotechnology coordinated by IBioIC. The Chair will also lead on developing collaborative and productive links with national and international partners in academia and within business, industry and government. A key contribution will be in leading Strathclyde's academic participation in the activities of IBioIC.



In recognition of the strategic importance that the University of Strathclyde places on Industrial Biotechnology and this appointment, there will be an opportunity to develop in partnership with the University, an initial funding package, which could include: staff, research students and start-up costs.



# Responsibilities

- As an academic leader, support and further enhance Industrial Biotechnology research, teaching and knowledge exchange activities within the Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences (SIPBS), the Science Faculty and the University.
- Provide research leadership within SIPBS, the Faculty and University through identifying, developing and leading significant research directions and projects. Define and deliver activities which maximise the impact of this research to the Industrial Biotechnology sector.
- Lead an internationally acclaimed programme of Industrial Biotechnology research, disseminating results through regular and sustained publications in high impact journals, books and conference proceedings.
- Secure substantial research grant funding in Industrial Biotechnology and related subjects for research and knowledge exchange activities.
- Lead in the development of appropriate knowledge exchange activity to establish and maintain links with companies in the Industrial Biotechnology sector and government agencies, influencing policy and professional practice at national and international level in academia and within business, industry and government.
- Contribute at a strategic level, to the work of SIPBS, the Science Faculty and University, for example through participation in the Department senior management team and by playing a lead role on University committees.
- Oversee the design and delivery of educational degree curricula and play a lead role in the development of educational strategy and operational standards.
- Engage in continuous professional development.



# Person Specification

- Good honours degree plus a PhD (or equivalent professional experience) in a discipline appropriate to Industrial Biotechnology.
- An outstanding and inspiring record of achievement in research and scholarship evidenced in a sustained portfolio of peer-reviewed publications recognised internationally in the field of Industrial Biotechnology.
- Research interests consistent with the strategic direction of the Department/Faculty/University.
- Extensive experience of delivering high quality undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and supervision of research students in Industrial Biotechnology.
- Established track record of project, budget and staff management.
- Proven ability to build an internationally leading research group and successfully manage and promote that group's research within an international arena.
- Established track record of cross-disciplinary research, and the development and maintenance of external partnerships including interaction with industry.
- Proven track record of achievement in building an internationally leading programme of research and high impact knowledge exchange activity.
- Proven ability to attract substantial research funding over a sustained period.
- Champion for Industrial Biotechnology, who can interact with academia, industry and government agencies, and play a major role in the Industrial Biotechnology Innovation Centre.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills; with the ability to listen, engage and persuade, and to present complex issues to a range of audiences.
- Able to provide purpose and strategic direction to SIPBS and contribute at a senior level to the Faculty and University.
- Able to build Strathclyde's capability and credibility in Industrial Biotechnology research.



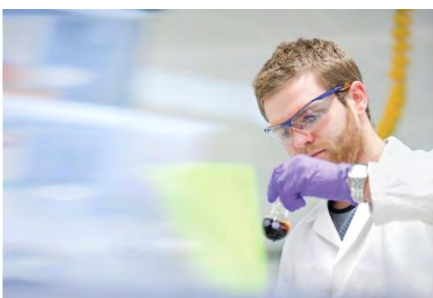
# Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy & Biomedical Science

The Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences (SIPBS) is a leading centre for research, education and knowledge exchange focussed on the delivery of new medicines, better medicines and better use of medicines. We were ranked fourth (of 94) on research power in REF 2014 (UoA3) and placed 41st in the world in the QS World Rankings by Subject (Pharmacy & Pharmacology).

Our research and work with business & industry focuses on many different areas including:

- making discoveries in basic bioscience that can lead to viable drug discovery programmes
- creating innovative manufacturing and formulation of pharmaceuticals
- using pharmacoepidemiology and practice-based research to ensure the most effective and efficient use of medicines

In recognition of the University of Strathclyde's profile in Industrial Biotechnology, the Scottish Funding Council selected Strathclyde to host the Scottish Innovation Centre in Industrial Biotechnology ([www.ibioic.com](http://www.ibioic.com)). With an £11.2m initial investment, IBioIC is tasked to facilitate the growth of the Industrial Biotechnology industry in Scotland to £1 bn by 2025, adding value to the Scottish economy and creating over 1500 new jobs. The Centre is led by its industry membership: it supports skills development, collaborative activities and capital investment. An open-access equipment facility, the Rapid Bioprocess Prototyping Centre ([www.ibioic.com/RBPC.htm](http://www.ibioic.com/RBPC.htm)), is co-located with the academic Industrial Biotechnology research labs. The RBPC supports its industrial members in access to pilot and demonstration scale-up facilities. It is anticipated that the Robertson Chair will work collaboratively with IBioIC and be an academic champion for the translational activity of IBioIC.



# Faculty of Science

The Faculty of Science covers all the major scientific disciplines and is organised in the following departments:

- Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Science
- Computer and Information Sciences
- Pure and Applied Chemistry
- Mathematics and Statistics
- Physics (including the Institute of Photonics, a commercially orientated research centre)

With over 3,000 students and more than £20 million of external research grant income each year, we provide a prime learning and research environment. The Faculty of Science investigates the challenges and possibilities of the natural and technological world, from drug discovery and public health, to environmental concerns, tackling cybercrime, and understanding space. We embrace the University's philosophy of 'useful learning' in research, knowledge exchange and teaching.

Informed by the world-class research being pursued in all our departments, Science courses at Strathclyde combine theoretical understanding with an emphasis on modern applications, giving our graduates the knowledge and skills that are relevant in today's world. Most degrees are accredited by the relevant professional body.

Students are offered high quality teaching informed by innovative research and benefit from strong links with industry, the NHS and other public sector organisations and international partners. Their learning is supported by a sophisticated virtual e-learning environment designed to meet their needs.

Our facilities are excellent, with well equipped, modern laboratories and teaching rooms. Students and staff have 24 hour access to our advanced and secure computer information network.





# The University of Strathclyde

Established more than 200 years ago 'for the good of mankind', the University of Strathclyde has always had a global outlook. The University is situated in the heart of Glasgow –one of the UK's largest cities – and has a vibrant, international community including 22,000 students and more than 3,000 staff from around 100 countries.

Strathclyde is dedicated to 'useful learning' and is recognised internationally for its close working relationship with global businesses, and its partnerships with industry, government and policy makers. The University's academics are committed to working with partners to tackle the major research challenges of the 21st Century, while developing the highly-skilled graduates needed by industry and the professions. Its high-profile alumni include John Logie Baird, inventor of the world's first television; James Blyth, the wind energy pioneer; David Livingstone, the medical missionary and explorer; Henry Faulds, originator of fingerprint identification; James "Paraffin" Young, father of the oil industry; Dame Elish Angiolini QC, former Lord Advocate of Scotland; and Sir Tom Hunter, entrepreneur and philanthropist.

Our Strategic Plan <http://www.strath.ac.uk/whystrathclyde/strategicplan/> is designed to ensure that the University achieves its ambitions as a leading international technological university and that, through research, education and knowledge exchange; we remain engaged with public life globally as a place of useful learning. At Strathclyde, technologies combine the creation and development of materials, methods and processes with an understanding of how people and societies around the world use, adapt and respond to these.



## Our Values

### People-oriented

Committed to our staff and students, providing opportunities and investing in their development.

### Bold

Confident and challenging about what we do, and supportive of appropriate and managed risk in our decision making.

### Innovative

Focused on discovering and applying knowledge with impact, and encouraging creative thinking and new ideas.

### Collaborative

Working together, internally and externally, with integrity and in an open, respectful way.

### Ambitious

For our institution, staff and students as well as supporting the ambitions of our partners.

# Reward and Employee Benefits

## Reward

We offer a competitive salary package at a Professorial level commensurate with your profile and experience in your area of expertise. As well as the above, employment at the University of Strathclyde offers a number of excellent benefits including:

- Generous holiday entitlement of 31 days plus 11 public holidays
- Membership of the Universities Superannuation Scheme which includes a generous monthly employer contribution of 18% while you will pay 8% of your salary
- Salary exchange scheme known as Pensions Plus, it is open to employees who are members of the Universities Superannuation Scheme. Members benefit from savings in National Insurance Contributions by changing the way pension contributions are paid.
- A generous relocation package available for those relocating from further afield

## Career Development

Committed to being a 'place of useful learning', the University puts great emphasis on the learning and development of all our staff

- Reduced or remitted fees on a number of vocational and non-vocational courses
- Access to the University Library's facilities and resources
- A wide range of professional development courses via the [University's Organisation and Staff Development Unit \(OSDU\)](#) and other in-house training providers

## Family Friendly Benefits

The University is committed to promoting and improving a healthy work-life balance for employees and we offer a number of benefits to staff with families

- Generous maternity, paternity, adoption and shared parental leave schemes offering above the statutory minimum requirements for qualifying staff
- [Childcare Voucher Scheme](#) which operates as a salary sacrifice scheme allowing you to make savings on tax and national insurance contributions.
- [On-campus nursery](#), run by Childcare Scotland, is available for children from 3 months to pre-school.

## Health and Wellbeing

The University places high importance on the safety, wellbeing and health of all our staff and offer a range of facilities and services to facilitate this.

- Reduced rates of membership to the [University's Centre for Sport and Recreation](#)
- [Ross Priory Club](#)
- Generous occupational sick pay provision
- Access to the Occupational Health Service and Employee Counselling Service
- [Cycle to Work Scheme](#)

# Application Process

Applicants are required to complete an application form including the names, positions, organisations and telephone contact numbers of three referees who will be contacted before interview without permission, unless you indicate you would prefer otherwise.

Applicants should also submit a detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV), a covering letter and a Research Plan outlining your research strategy for the next 5 years. This should be submitted as a single document.

Please ensure that your supporting statement fully states how your skills and experience match the person specification for this role; your CV should cover your full career history and provide details of associated responsibilities and key achievements.

Finally please ensure that you have included mobile, work and home telephone numbers on your CV, as well as any dates when you will not be available.

Further information on the application process and working at Strathclyde can be found on our website (<http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr/workforus>).

Please note formal interviews for this post will take place on **Monday 19 June 2017**.

**For informal enquiries please contact:**  
**Professor David Littlejohn, Executive Dean Science Faculty**  
**University of Strathclyde**

**+44 (0) 141 548 2067 [d.littlejohn@strath.ac.uk](mailto:d.littlejohn@strath.ac.uk)**

