INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

for appointment as

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer
(Confirmation Path)

DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACOLOGY AND TOXICOLOGY
Te Tari Whaiaroaro
OTAGO SCHOOL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

The Department

The Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology is geared to training medics, dentists, and pharmacists how to prescribe/administer and use drugs safely and effectively. We are a research intensive Department with buoyant undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in Pharmacology and Toxicology (and we currently offer the only MSc in Toxicology in New Zealand). We have contributed markedly to biomedical research both nationally and internationally and have trained many postgraduates, a number of whom have attained a high international reputation for their research.

The University is divided into four main divisions of Health Sciences, Sciences, Humanities and Commerce. We belong administratively to the Division of Health Sciences and the Head of Department reports directly to the Dean of the Otago School of Medical Sciences (OSMS), who in turn is responsible to the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Division of Health Sciences.

The OSMS was established at the beginning of 1996 and comprises the Departments of Anatomy and Structural Biology; Biochemistry; Microbiology and Immunology; Pharmacology and Toxicology; and Physiology.

The Health Sciences Division incorporates within Dunedin the OSMS, Dunedin School of Medicine, School of Physiotherapy, School of Dentistry and School of Pharmacy, and in northern campuses the University of Otago, Christchurch and University of Otago, Wellington. Although the Department is administered by the Division of Health Sciences, it is closely allied academically with the Division of Sciences through its BSc. We also have research collaborations within both Health Sciences and Sciences.

Management and Staffing

Leadership and management are provided by a Head. The Department is an Academic Resource Responsibility Centre within the OSMS, giving the Department the flexibility to manage its own finances, establish its own priorities and act accordingly.

The Department currently employs 24 staff:

- **Academic Staff:** Two Professors, two Associate Professors, four Senior Lecturers, one fixed-term lecturer, one Professional Practice Fellow, one Teaching Fellow, two Senior Research Fellows, two Postdoctoral Fellows, and three Assistant Research Fellows.
- **General Staff:** One Personal Assistant to the HOD, one Departmental Administrator, one Administrative Assistant, one Teaching Laboratory Manager, and three Technicians.
Research

Academic and research-support staff in the research laboratory groups of the Department are engaged in high quality, internationally-recognised research focussed on the following themes of Cellular and Molecular Neuropharmacology and Neurotoxicology; Cardiovascular signalling and cardioprotection; drug resistant cancer and drug metabolism; Inflammation (dermatology and CNS stroke models) and wound healing; pharmacovigilance/pharmacogenetics; toxicology and neuroprotection, and vestibular pharmacology. State-of-the-art technologies, including the use of in vivo disease models, are used to undertake integrative, cellular and molecular investigations aimed at understanding animal and human pathophysiology (and to delineate targets for novel drugs). For details please visit http://www.otago.ac.nz/pharmacology.

Research in the Department is funded by International and National research organisations such as Marsden Fund; Health Research Council of New Zealand; Foundation for Research, Science and Technology; Lottery Health; Neurological Foundation; National Kidney Foundation; Otago Medical Research Foundation; and the Maurice and Phyllis Paykel Trust. Individual researchers within the Department maintain strong collaborative links with other Departments within the University and multiple Australasian, European and US laboratories.

Departmental Staff Publications since 2004


Goodin, M.G., Bray, B.J. and Rosengren, R.J (2006) Sex- and strain-dependent effects of epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG) and epicatechin gallate (ECG) in the mouse. Food and Chemical Toxicology 44:1496-1504


Kapoor M, Clarkson AN, Sutherland BA, and Appleton I. (2005) The role of antioxidants in models of inflammation: emphasis on L-arginine and arachidonic acid metabolism. Inflammopharmacology. 12(5-6):505-519


Teaching

In addition to our degree programmes (Pharmacology and Toxicology for BSc and BSc Honours students and Drugs and Human Health for BBiomedSc students), we contribute to an interdepartmental BSc and BSc(Hons) in Neuroscience, to the First Year Health Sciences paper BIOC111 and to undergraduate medical education (MICN 2 and MICN 3). We also provide courses for other health science professionals (e.g. Dentistry and Pharmacy). We teach more than 2,400 individual students over the course of the academic year.

With significant changes happening at the first year health science level in 2007, the Department is currently developing new curriculum for our 200-level courses. The aim of this development is to create papers that actively reflect the research informed environment at Otago University. Additionally, the Department is involved in new curriculum development for professional cohorts Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry, and Physiotherapy schools.

We teach using a mixture of lectures, practicals and small-group tutorials together with aids for computer-assisted, case-based and self-directed study. Regular tests and assessments ensure that students stay on schedule. As a small Department, we believe we have a friendly and personal relationship with all our students.

Postgraduate study is undertaken in one of the following programmes: 400-level (Honours, PGDipSc and First year MSc) by papers and thesis; and BMedSc (Hons), Second year MSc and PhD by thesis. Our 300-level science teaching is linked closely with our research, and 300-level students are encouraged through research lab "rotations" to choose a supervisor and select a project – specific details about research projects are made available each year in Semester Two.

Physical Resources

The Department is housed in 2nd and 3rd floors of the Adams Building in the Medical School complex on the South Campus with additional space on the first floor of the Wellcome Building. Recently, most of our teaching laboratories have been upgraded, as have many of our research laboratories, offices and corridors. An ongoing programme of upgrades is in place with one further research laboratory being refurbished in 2007.

Duties and Responsibilities

The successful applicant is expected to be active in their field of research, able to establish an independent research programme and bring in external funding, and keen to interact and, where appropriate, collaborate with existing research groups in the Department of Pharmacology and within the University of Otago. They will also be expected to supervise postgraduate research (Honours, Postgraduate Diplomas, Masters, PhD). The successful applicants will also be expected to engage in undergraduate teaching and course developments and be able to commit to the general teaching philosophy of the Department. Applicants should address these points in their application and provide an outline of their proposed research over the next five years.
The successful applicant will be expected to engage in teaching and research not only in their specialist research theme but also in the teaching of general pharmacology and toxicology to healthcare professionals on undergraduate programmes. The University also encourages involvement in service to professional or research-related bodies, societies or organisations.

The appointees are responsible to the Head of Department.

**Qualifications**

All applicants should hold a PhD or equivalent qualification in pharmacology, biomedical science, clinical pharmacy/pharmacology or a research theme relevant to topical issues in pharmacology, toxicology (environmental or iatrogenic), drug discovery or drugs in use. Successful candidate(s) may or may not hold a medical qualification but medically qualified applicants can only be appointed on the lecturer scale.

**Appointment**

This is a confirmation path position with confirmation of appointment after five years, subject to satisfactory performance. For further information see: http://www.otago.ac.nz/personnelservices/Policies/ConfirmAppoint/Contents.html

Applicants should state the date on which they would be able to take up the appointment.

**Salary**

The salary range for a Lecturer is $64,400 to $77,674 per annum and for a Senior Lecturer is $81,871 to $94,680 per annum. Appointment will be made at an appropriate step in these ranges depending on qualifications and experience.

**Contact Person**

Specific enquiries may be directed to Professor George Lees, Head of Department, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Tel 03 479 7265, Fax 03 479 9777, Email george.lees@stonebow.otago.ac.nz

**Offer of the Position**

Should the University wish to offer you the position, a formal, written letter of offer will follow any verbal discussions that might be held with you. It is recommended that you do not resign from your current employment until you have received our written offer. The contents of this formal letter of offer and its attachments will constitute the entire agreement between the employee and the employer, and will supersede all previous representations, negotiations, commitments and communications, either written or oral between the parties. Any agreements will only be binding on the employer where they have been formally offered by the Human Resources Division and accepted by the employee.
Applications


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