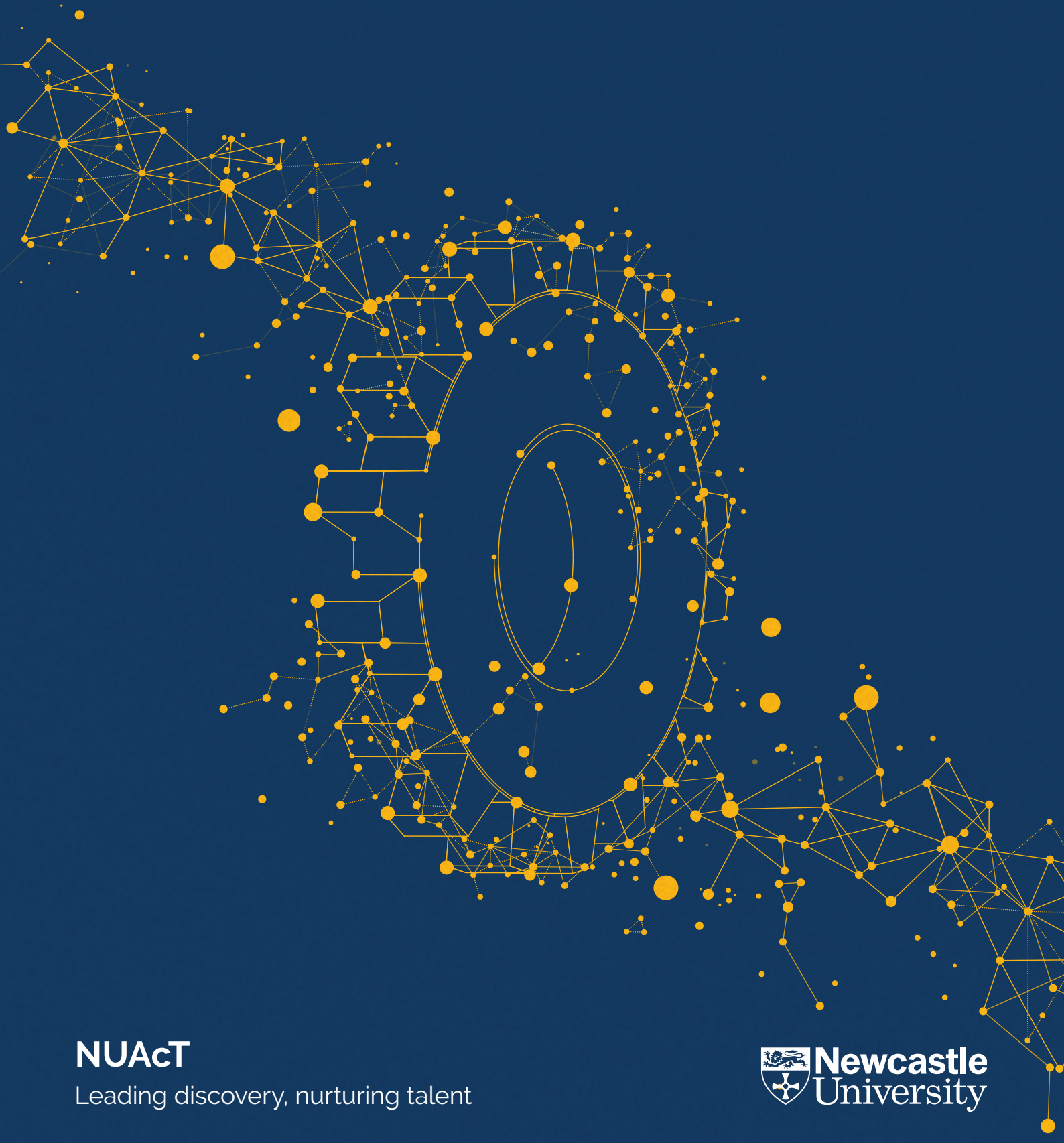
NUPAcT Fellowship with Procter & Gamble Industrial Biotechnology

Candidate Information



NUAcT

Leading discovery, nurturing talent

Newcastle University

Contents

We invite you to learn more about what makes Newcastle University an exceptional place to work and thrive. Discover our commitment and initiatives in the following areas:

Fostering Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

Research Culture at Newcastle University

Employee Benefits

Our Vision and Strategy

Investing in world-class facilities

Living and Working in Newcastle

Welcome

The Newcastle University Academic Track Fellowship scheme aims to find and develop our research leaders of the future.

We are investing in research talent to build and support a large cohort of NUAcT and NUPAcT Fellows.

We are looking to appoint a NUPAcT Fellow in Industrial Biotechnology at Newcastle University. This Partnership Fellowship position is funded jointly with Procter & Gamble (P&G), one of our key industry partners.

With the scheme's focus on equality, diversity and inclusion, we are building a diverse cohort of Fellows who will champion others and help us to build a more inclusive research culture across Newcastle University. Our appointments are fully flexible, which means that we can accommodate part-time working as needed. If you share our vision to enhance our diversity and creativity and work together towards a fully inclusive and collaborative culture where everyone's ideas thrive, we would be incredibly excited to hear from you.

Dr Liz Heidrich
NUAcT Director

The Fellowship will support you to:

- Work in partnership with P&G
- Develop your research ideas around sustainable biotechnology through protected research time
- Collaborate with top researchers in Newcastle and beyond
- Develop grant applications to underpin your own independent research programme and collaborative projects with industry partners.
- Take part in the supervision of doctoral students
- Establish your leadership in your field
- Form international partnerships with overseas research groups

NUAcT Fellowship Scheme with **Procter & Gamble**

The sector-leading NUAcT Fellowship scheme aims to develop our research leaders of the future and enhance our collective research excellence.

NUPAcT is a key aspect of the scheme, offering jointly funded posts with external partners which prioritise the allocation of investment towards developing sustained strategic partnerships between the University and external stakeholders.

By spending time at both the University and a partner organisation, they offer the opportunity for people to build their careers across different sectors in the long term and maintain "a foot in both camps". The benefits for the fellow and the institution are anticipated to last beyond the life of the fellowship, through developing unique skillsets, building stronger partnerships, enhancing cross-sectoral knowledge exchange, and enabling agility and cross-sector working for other researchers.

As well as enjoying the benefits of being embedded in this strategic partnership, you will also become part of a large diverse cohort of NUAcT Fellows who will be working across different disciplines throughout the University.

NUPAcT Fellows will be outstanding early career researchers who have an excellent track record of research outputs commensurate with their career stage and who have the potential to become world leading academics. The are expected to lead their own research programme, developing their research projects in collaboration with the partner, and delivering high quality research and impact outside the University. They should seek to build an international reputation and secure external funding to sustain their research in the longer term. They will also be role models of a positive research culture both within the University and within their partner organisation.

Our world-class facilities and the excellence of our research across wide-ranging disciplines gives fellows the freedom and opportunity to excel and succeed. We are also fully committed to the professional development of our next generation of researchers. We have a dedicated team overseeing our scheme, ensuring that each Fellow is supported through mentorship and personalised career development training tailored to their individual needs.

Working Together in **Partnership**

This role will be based within the School of Natural and Environmental Science (SNES) at Newcastle University working closing with colleagues at P&G.

The position will support and grow Newcastle University's strategic partnership with **P&G** - a world leader in fast-moving consumer products with global markets and impact. P&G and Newcastle University have a common goal of a more sustainable future, and both recognize the vital role biotechnology will play in achieving this. The fellow will work closely with P&G and other industry and academic partners that form a growing Northeast research ecosystem in this field. The fellow will be creative and collaborative in delivering solution-based research that harnesses natural resources to addresses real world problems and reinforces Newcastle University's global reputation

At P&G, the Fellow will be based in the Newcastle Innovation Centre at Longbenton. This collaborative environment provides the perfect foundation for the Fellow to immerse themselves and achieve their research goals.

The fellowship will provide a unique early career opportunity for an academic wishing to build a research profile in Industrial Biotechnology – developing key skills both in the academic and industry sectors, leading on research projects and project management.

At Newcastle, the Fellow will join a cohort of highly skilled research scientists, trained in an interdisciplinary environment and performing high quality research that helps P&G to fulfil its mission. The fellowship will build on an existing strong partnership with P&G, cementing the relationship for the longer term. The Fellow will also engage with colleagues in the Newcastle University Centre for Excellence (NUCoRE) in Industrial Biotechnology.

Biotechnology at Newcastle University

Why is Industrial biotechnology important?

Globally, the natural world and human societies face unprecedented challenges - especially in the areas of food security, energy, materials, chemical building blocks and emerging threats to health. Many of the most promising solutions to these challenges are bio-based and harness the power of recent bio-technological advances in AI, genome sequencing, precision agriculture and protein engineering. According to McKinsey & Co, as much as 60% of the physical inputs to the global economy could, in principle, be produced biologically. This shift towards biobased production not only holds the potential for significant environmental benefits but could also generate a direct economic impact of up to $4 trillion annually over the next ten to twenty years.[1] The fast-moving non-food consumer product industry, which is the focus of this position, represents a crucial sector for the UK economy with over £17 billion in annual sales. This industry significantly contributes to quality of life through a wide array of household and personal care products.

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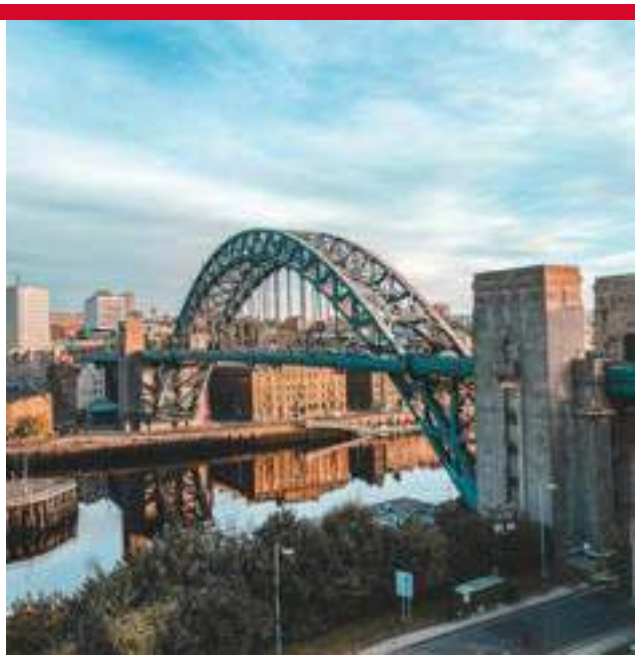

Industrial Biotechnology: A defined area of excellence at Newcastle University

Newcastle University has considerable strength and visibility in Industrial biotechnology. We benefit from considerable direct and indirect funding from our industrial partnerships and have a track record in research that translates fundamental science into practical solutions to globally relevant real-world problems. We are also committed to training the next generation of young scientists. With academic industry partners in the Northeast biotechnology ecosystem, we run doctoral training programmes that provide the skills and knowledge required to succeed in this field that is so vital for all our futures.

[1]https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/life-sciences/our-insights/the-bio-revolution-innovations-transforming-economies-societies-and-our-lives


PANalytical

The Offer

How we will support you

We offer a competitive start-up package:

- Initial fixed-term appointment for five years (or five years' full-time equivalent if working part-time) with expected progression to an open-ended contract subject to successful review.
- Research expenses up to £50k, subject to research programme needs and partner organisation.
- Funding for a 3-year PhD student (UKRI rate for Fee and Stipend, Home (UK) level) associated with the research.
- Dedicated mentors with extensive research expertise and significant project management experience.
- The opportunity to join and participate in our world-class interdisciplinary research centres.
- Extensive training opportunities including a bespoke personal development plan.
- Peer support from a cross disciplinary cohort of talented early career researchers.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

To conduct high-quality translational research in sustainable biotechnology that supports and grows our strategic partnership with P&G.

To co-create and run research projects that help P&G and Newcastle University meet ambitious sustainability goals by harnessing the potential of natural resources, especially enzymes and biopolymers.

To contribute to the development of world-leading teaching programmes, co-created with industry partners and recognized to boost employability.

To be a member of relevant academic groups and the Newcastle University Centre for Excellence (NUCoRE) in Industrial Biotechnology.
To represent the School and University at national and international meetings and conferences to disseminate research outputs.

To contribute to the supervision of postgraduate students and support the coordination of research streams within the wider academic/industry biotechnology ecosystem.

To act in a collegiate manner and make a positive contribution to the workplace. This includes maintaining and enhancing a working environment that fosters a positive research culture.

To plan and carry out independent, original research relevant to the strategy of the University, leading to high quality outputs, impact and successful applications for research funding.

To initiate and participate in interdisciplinary collaborations, that enable innovative research.

To provide guidance and career support to other colleagues and students, including high quality supervision of PhD students, and students undertaking taught programmes.

To develop a balanced profile of activities that includes research-led teaching and contributions to the working environment. Whilst the focus of this position is on carrying out independent research, enthusiasm for teaching is expected.

To contribute to a positive and inclusive research environment, and actively support the University's equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) agenda.

It is anticipated that you will move to an open-ended contract at the end of your fixed-term period, subject to successful review against the above criteria and subject to the area of activity in the University being sufficiently financially viable to support a permanent post.

Person **Specification**

Knowledge, skills and experience

Essential

- A proven track record in working closely with a major commercial partner in industrial biotechnology to co-create and deliver research that addresses commercial and societal needs in relation to fast moving consumer products.
- Extensive experience in key techniques that drive the strategic partnership with P&G including microarrays molecular probes and enzymes, as applied to fast moving consumer goods.
- A strong track record in operating effectively with, and contributing to, a collaborative research ecosystem that includes large commercial entities, SMEs, regional stakeholders, students, and academics.
- A proven ability to coordinate and manage multi-partner projects, synergizing diverse skill sets and resources to delivery outstanding outputs to tight deadlines.
- A proven ability to supervise students and visiting researchers – providing the necessary training, scientific context and coordination required to develop and deliver research projects.
- Excellent communication skills with the ability and enthusiasm to leverage and share resources, expertise and knowledge across academic groups and business units.

Desirable

- A strong interest in developing research-based solutions to global challenges.
- Experience of providing supervision and academic guidance to students.
- Good networking skills and the ability to develop productive links with fellow professionals from other organisations and agencies with whom the University interacts.
- Willingness to contribute to ongoing outreach activities that may include visits, public lectures and contributions to events and summer schools.
- Research interests in areas related to industrial enzymes, polysaccharides, biofilms, and high-throughput screening platforms.

Attributes and behaviour

Essential

- Commitment to maintain and support a diverse and inclusive environment, where colleagues and students are treated fairly and with respect.
- Willingness to participate in collaborating teams and openness to work in an interdisciplinary way.
- Desire to contribute to a positive research culture aligned to the University's four Guiding Principles and its Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy.
- Willingness to contribute to broader activities that fall within the typical remit of an academic member of staff such as membership of committees, involvement in working groups, EDI activity, outreach, etc.
- Willingness to develop others, for example, through teaching, mentoring, and supervision.
- Motivation to contribute to and benefit from the NUAcT cohort activities.

Qualifications

- PhD (or equivalent) in biology, biotechnology or relevant field.

How to **Apply**

Please apply for this position via our recruitment webpage: www.ncl.ac.uk/vacancies

Please read this information carefully as incorrect submission of your application will result in it not being considered.

All documentation:

- **must be completed in no less than 11pt font**
- **must not exceed the maximum page or character count limits given**
- **must be complete - please ensure you include your cover letter, your CV, your summary cover sheet and research proposal. The summary cover sheet and research proposal should be attached as 'additional documents' to your application. Please remember not to include identifying information in your summary cover sheet.**

All fully completed applications (with all documents provided) will be assessed in a preliminary longlisting stage based on the summary cover sheet only. Summary cover sheet templates can be downloaded from the NUAcT website **here**.

If you require any adjustments in the application process, please get in touch with us to discuss this by email on: nuact.admin@newcastle.ac.uk

1. Outline your academic vision and impact

Complete the **Summary Cover Sheet template** with your career highlights, motivation for applying, and alignment with the application criteria and opportunity area. Include plans for securing research funding and how your work will advance research and teaching at Newcastle University.

Share your commitment to equality, diversity, inclusion, and a positive research culture. Describe your teaching approach and plans to contribute to undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. The Summary Cover Sheet should be no longer than four pages and should follow guidance in the template.

2. Write a full research proposal

Prepare a detailed research proposal that outlines a clear programme of research aligned with the opportunity area and Newcastle University's priorities. Include a comprehensive plan for securing external funding and demonstrate strategies for impactful collaboration with external partners. Highlight how your research will benefit Newcastle, advance the academic community, generate meaningful impact, and contribute to research-led teaching.

The proposal should be concise, no longer than three pages.

See our FAQ's for further application tips.

3. Upload your CV

Your CV should be no more than four pages and should include:

- Training and qualification history
- Employment history, including dates and positions/ roles held to date
- Teaching experience, qualifications and innovations
- Research funding history, and any awards or prizes received
- Research outputs (e.g. publications, talks, patents, methodologies, impact generation, etc)
- Any contributions to other academic activities, including mentorship, supervision, outreach and promoting a positive research culture
- Any other relevant experience and achievements

4. Check and format your documents

Please ensure your application includes the following documents:

- Summary Cover Sheet (maximum 4 pages)
- Full research proposal (maximum 3 pages)
- CV (maximum 4 pages)
- All documents should be formatted in a font size of at least 11pt and must adhere to the specified page limits. Applications that exceed these limits or include additional, unnecessary documents may not be considered. We also ask that all required documents are complete before submission to ensure your application is fully reviewed.

5. Submit your application

Complete your application and submit it online via the Newcastle University website link here.

6. Timeline for recruitment

Closing date: 18th February 2025 (11:59pm)
Interview dates: Late March/ early April 2025

The start date for the posts will be mutually agreed upon by the successful candidate, Newcastle University, and P&G.

Time-line subject to change. We will keep in touch with applicants throughout the process.

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