



JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Postdoctoral Research Assistant
Department / Unit:	School of Biological Sciences
Grade:	RHUL 7
Accountable to:	Professor
Purpose of the Post	
<p>The appointee will be responsible for designing and implementing experimental work and social network analyses as described in Axis 2 of ERC-funded project BeeDanceGap. Based on a proven record of academic achievement in animal behaviour, they will use social network analysis to compare the contribution of different communication mechanisms to honeybee recruitment. They will be encouraged to work independently with limited supervision from the PI, and to work collaboratively with the external co-investigators. They will also play the leading role in disseminating the research findings, including preparation of research manuscripts for publication in high-impact journals, presenting at international conferences and engaging in outreach activities involving the general public. They will be an integral member of the research group and contribute to the support of other experiments, outreach activities and lab management within the group when needed.</p>	
Key Tasks	
<p>Research duties</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan research into the analysis of honeybee communication networks based upon a combination of (1) approaches set out in the grant proposal (2) self-directed input that is in accordance with the project objectives 2. Learn to use NBDA-based approaches to analyse social network data, with support. 3. Pilot, refine and optimise experimental techniques with limited supervision from the PI and with input from our existing PDRAs. 4. Collect and analyse data, performing field experiments that are weather dependent and may involve working additional hours (including evenings and weekends) during the field season (with time off in lieu). 5. Compose research manuscripts for peer-reviewed publication 6. Submit abstracts to and present research findings at international conferences 7. Collaborate with external co-investigators on the project, and with the PI's research group 	

8. Take a leading role in overcoming methodological problems that arise during the project lifespan, and keep the PI up-to-date with the project's progress
9. Formulate and test new hypotheses arising from the data, where relevant

General duties

1. Co-manage the day-to-day running of the research lab and apiary, and occasionally participate in beekeeping when the contracted beekeeper is not available.
2. Maintain proper management of the research apiary, including maintaining cleanliness standards.
3. Support other team members in the research group when help with data collection or professional advice is required.
4. Participate in lab meetings and events, including communicating recent findings to the research group
5. Undertake training as required.
6. Participate in collaborative meetings as required, including at UK locations outside London
7. Represent the research group at external meetings, seminars and conferences, either with other members of the group or alone
8. Participate in the supervision of graduate and undergraduate students.
9. Undertake small scale project budget management, including requisition of laboratory supplies
10. Develop an understanding of Health and Safety issues inherent in the research, and participate in the risk assessment and mitigation process
11. Participate in public engagement activities, such as open days, science fairs and citizen science projects.
12. Help to organize occasional conferences, discussion groups and specialist meetings at Royal Holloway

Other Duties

The duties listed are not exhaustive and may be varied from time to time as dictated by the changing needs of the College. The post holder will be expected to undertake other duties as appropriate and as requested by his/her manager.

The post holder may be required to work at any of the locations at which the business of Royal Holloway is conducted.

