

## Academic staff in the School of Biosciences

### Head of School

#### [Professor Steve Busby \(/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=5078&Name=professor-steve-busby\)](/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=5078&Name=professor-steve-busby)

Professor of Biochemistry  
Head of School

School of Biosciences

Research in Steve Busby's lab is concerned with understanding the molecular mechanisms that control gene expression in bacteria, with particular attention to studying the regulation of transcription initiation in *Escherichia coli*. Much of the recent work has focussed on the expression of virulence determinants in pathogenic strains.

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### Academic staff

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

[\(http://www.bham.ac.uk/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=5078&Name=professor-steve-busby\)](#)

#### [Dr Luke Alderwick \(/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=4262&Name=dr-luke-alderwick\)](/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=4262&Name=dr-luke-alderwick)

Lecturer  
Director of the Birmingham Drug Discovery Facility

School of Biosciences

In 2010 Dr Luke Alderwick was appointed to the position of Lecturer in Molecular Microbiology and he is one of the youngest members of academic staff in the School of Biosciences. His many research interests revolve around understanding the biochemistry and molecular genetics of cell wall assembly in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, which is the causative bacterial agent of TB infections. ...

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Senior Lecturer

School of Biosciences

My interests are focused on genome evolution and meiosis in both model plants and crops. In 1995 I setup a molecular cytogenetics laboratory with my colleague Paul Fransz (now at University of Amsterdam) and with advice from our colleague Gareth Jones. In the last 15 years we have trained many European colleagues and last year we were awarded a European collaborative project to investigate ...

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#### [Professor Jeff Bale \(/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=4287&Name=professor-jeff-bale\)](/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=4287&Name=professor-jeff-bale)

Professor of Environmental Biology  
Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Education

School of Biosciences

Professor Jeff Bale is one of the world's leading experts in the field of invertebrate thermal biology. His work covers both fundamental aspects such as strategies for survival in polar environments as well as the applications of thermal tolerance including the establishment potential of non-native biological control agents. Jeff has over 200 publications and supervised 50 doctoral ...

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#### [Dr George W. Bassel \(/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=38785&Name=dr-george-w.-bassel\)](/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=38785&Name=dr-george-w.-bassel)

Birmingham Fellow

School of Biosciences

</university/colleges/les/research-gallery/george-bassel.aspx> George Bassel was appointed as a Birmingham Fellow in 2012. His group focuses on understanding how genes change the shape of plant cells. Using seed germination as a model system, Dr. Bassel is uncovering gene regulatory networks that control cell shape changes, and how these networks are influenced by the environment.

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Bardrick Professor of Microbial Physiology and Chemistry

School of Biosciences

Professor Besra heads a world-leading multidisciplinary team investigating key aspects of the microbial physiology of the Mycobacterium tuberculosis cell wall and the potential role of iNKT/CD1d therapeutics. He has been awarded and successfully managed over 35 research grants valued at over £11 million from The Wellcome Trust, the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research ...

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Senior Lecturer in Molecular Microbiology  
Program Leader- MSc Microbiology and Infection

School of Biosciences

 (</university/colleges/les/research-gallery/apoorva-bhatt.aspx>) Dr. Bhatt is a Lecturer in Molecular Microbiology in the School of Biosciences. A prestigious Fellowship- a Career Development Award from the Medical Research Council-enabled him to set up his research group at the University of Birmingham in 2006. Dr.Bhatt's research interests include studying pathogenic mycobacteria and how they cause disease, with a particular focus on *Mycobacteri* ...

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Birmingham Fellow

School of Biosciences

Dr Bik's research is intensely interdisciplinary, utilizing high-throughput sequencing and novel computational approaches to characterize neglected microbial eukaryote taxa from diverse environments - species representing the "dark matter" of biology. These taxa play fundamental ecological roles and underpin ecosystem functioning, and are ubiquitous in habitats ranging from the ...

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Senior Lecturer in Animal Biology

School of Biosciences

Dr Roland Brandstaetter is a Zoologist with specialisations in developmental biology, physiology, neurobiology, neuroendocrinology, and circadian biology. His research approach is holistic and considers mechanistic investigations at various levels of organismal organisation to study complex natural traits. He worked at several European Universities and Max-Planck-Institutes before taking a ...

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Lecturer in RNA biology  
Group Leader

School of Biosciences

I am a Lecturer in RNA biology. My group's research focuses on understanding the mechanisms that connect pre-mRNA processing with translation and Nonsense Mediated mRNA Decay (NMD). A second interest of the laboratory is understanding the functions of ribosomes and ribosomal proteins within the nucleus.

Lab page: **[https://www.facebook.com/pages/BrognaLab/6460455520 ... \(https://www.facebook.com/pages/BrognaLab/646045552079820\)](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BrognaLab/6460455520)**

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Senior Lecturer in Animal Behaviour

School of Biosciences

Dr Chappell is an expert in the field of animal cognition, and is involved in interdisciplinary research and teaching between the fields of biology, psychology and computer science.

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Lecturer in Plant Molecular Genetics  
Royal Society Leverhulme Trust Senior Research Fellow 2013-14

School of Biosciences

My research interest is in understanding development and evolution, particularly in plants. I run a small research group who work primarily with moss and Arabidopsis; we also grow liverworts, spikemoss, grasses, green seaweeds and microalgae. We use molecular genetics, cell biology, developmental biology and 'omics approaches to understand gene and protein function in these ...

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Professor, Chair of Environmental Genomics

School of Biosciences

John Colbourne's investigations encompass the fields of evolutionary ecology, high-throughput biology, environmental and functional genomics. From this blend of disciplines emerges a research program that centers on connecting gene expression and genome structure with individual fitness and population-level responses to environmental challenges.

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Professor of Mass Spectrometry

School of Biosciences

Professor Helen J. Cooper is an expert in the gas-phase ion chemistry of peptides and proteins. She is a world-leader in the field of electron capture dissociation mass spectrometry and is responsible for establishing the University of Birmingham as a centre of excellence in mass spectrometry research. Professor Cooper has published extensively in peer-reviewed journals and serves on a ...

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Lecturer in Molecular Cell Biology and Signalling

School of Biosciences

Dr Cunningham is an expert in the use of quantitative proteomics techniques to characterise regulatory phosphorylation events and protein-protein interactions that occur during growth factor induced cell signalling.

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Professor of Biotechnology  
College Director of Knowledge Transfer

School of Biosciences

 [\(/university/colleges/les/research-gallery/tim-dafforn.aspx\)](/university/colleges/les/research-gallery/tim-dafforn.aspx) Professor Tim Dafforn has established himself as an expert in biophysical spectroscopy with a keen interest in synthetic biology. Professor Dafforn has developed a number of projects from inception through to commercial realization and is currently the director of knowledge transfer for the college of Life and Environmental Sciences at the University of Birmingham.

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Lecturer in Metabolomics

School of Biosciences

Dr Warwick (Rick) Dunn's research group focuses on developing innovative chromatography, mass spectrometry, sample collection and computational resources and their application in the study of the complex role of metabolites in human ageing and diseases. Areas of biomedical study include endocrinology, inflammation and immunology including musculoskeletal health, cardio-renal ...

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Birmingham Fellow  
Principal Investigator

School of Biosciences

Dr Yun Fan's research interest centers on understanding how cell death, cell proliferation and cell differentiation are coordinated to maintain tissue homeostasis. This has important implications for cancer development and tissue regeneration. As one of our Birmingham Fellows recruited worldwide, he joined us and established his laboratory at Birmingham in November ...

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Professor of Plant Molecular Biology  
Deputy Head of School of Biosciences

School of Biosciences

Chris Franklin is a leading expert on meiosis in plants. Work in his laboratory has made a major contribution to the understanding of how meiotic recombination is controlled in the model plant *Arabidopsis thaliana*. This knowledge is currently being transferred to crop species where the ability to modify genetic recombination will help plant breeders develop the new varieties that will be needed ...

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Emeritus Professor of Plant Cell Biology  
Research Fellow

School of Biosciences

Noni Franklin-Tong's research focuses on the cellular mechanisms involved in the model cell-cell recognition system of self-incompatibility (SI) in *Papaver rhoeas* (the Field Poppy). She is recognized at an international level for her work in the field of plant cell biology. Specifically she has made major contributions to the field of self-incompatibility, a field that has high ...

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Reader in Structural Biology  
Deputy Head of School of Biosciences

School of Biosciences

Dr Klaus Fütterer is a structural biologist whose research focuses on cell wall synthesis in the pathogen *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.

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Birmingham Fellow

School of Biosciences

Daniel joined the University of Birmingham in 2013 as a Birmingham Fellow. His research centres on investigating how plants sense and respond to their environment, with a particular focus on the role that targeted protein degradation plays during plant growth, development and stress response.

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**[Dr David Grainger \(/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=13152&Name=dr-david-grainger\)](/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=13152&Name=dr-david-grainger)**

Reader in Molecular Microbiology

School of Biosciences

Dr Grainger is an expert in the field of bacterial chromosome biology. He relocated his laboratory to the University of Birmingham in March 2011 having previously established a successful research group at the University of Warwick. He is a life-long supporter of Wolverhampton Wanderers FC and attributes his capacity to cope with the frequent disappointments that befall a research scientist to ...

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**[Professor Jonathan Green \(/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=9227&Name=professor-jonathan-green\)](/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=9227&Name=professor-jonathan-green)**

Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Education

School of Biosciences

Professor Jonathan Green is the Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Education as well as being a member of the academic staff in the School of Biosciences. He has interests in innovative methods of teaching, including interactive lectures and the uses of different types of assessment and feedback. His research interests are in infection processes of fungal plant pathogens.

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MRC CDA Fellow

School of Biosciences

Rebecca joined the University of Birmingham as a fellow in March 2014, and is supported by an independent MRC Career Development Award. With expertise in fungal molecular biology, host-pathogen interactions and environmental sensing, Rebecca is interested in researching what she terms fungal neighbourhood watch. Rebecca has worked on a variety of organisms, investigating how they orchestrate ...

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Lecturer - Molecular Ecophysiology

School of Biosciences

Dr Hayward's research group seeks to understand how organisms cope with variable and stressful environments. Temperate, polar and tropical terrestrial invertebrates (insects, mites and nematodes) are the primary focus of this endeavour. His lab uses state-of-the-art tools, and a systems biology approach, to investigate how these organisms detect, repair and stabilize the cellular ...

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Pro-Vice Chancellor (Estates and Infrastructure)

Director of the Centre for Systems Biology

School of Biosciences

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Reader in Developmental Neurobiology

School of Biosciences

 (</university/colleges/les/research-gallery/alicia-hidalgo.aspx>) Our lab aims to understand how the nervous system – including the brain – is formed and works.

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**[Dr Nik Hodges \(/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=5362&Name=dr-nik-hodges\)](/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=5362&Name=dr-nik-hodges)**

Senior Lecturer

School of Biosciences

Dr Nik Hodges is interested in the mechanisms of genetic toxicology, cellular oxidative stress and repair of oxidative DNA damage and his lab was the first to identify that the variant form of the repair protein OGG1 is repair deficient under conditions of oxidative stress which could have important consequences for individual susceptibility to cancer.

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Senior Lecturer in Molecular Cell Biology

Director of Graduate Research, College of Life and Environmental Sciences

School of Biosciences



Dr Hotchin is a cell biologist with an interest in normal epithelial cell function and in understanding the processes that contribute to diseases such as cancer. He has published a number of high impact papers on the role of small GTP-binding proteins in control of epithelial cell function. In addition to his research and teaching activities, Dr Hotchin is also currently Director of ...



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Birmingham Fellow

School of Biosciences

Damon Huber is interested in using a combination of biochemistry and molecular genetics to address complex biological problems in bacteria. The research in his lab is focused on the transport of proteins across the cytoplasmic membrane by the Sec machinery in bacteria, protein folding, and the connection between folding and transport. Damon is a Birmingham Fellow who joined the Institute of ...



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Senior lecturer

School of Biosciences

Eva Hyde's research interests are how proteins recognise their appropriate ligands; this includes the recognition of substrates by enzymes and the binding of proteins to their cognate operator DNA and to other proteins. She has extensive experience in NMR spectroscopy and complementary biophysical techniques, such as fluorescence and circular dichroism, and, more recently, in small angle ...



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Lecturer in Human Biology, Biochemistry and disease

School of Biosciences

Steve is primarily an anatomist, with a particular interest in neuroanatomy. He has conducted research into the delivery of therapeutic genes to the injured mammalian nervous system, and prior to this worked as a hospital doctor in a variety of medical and surgical specialties.



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School of Biosciences

Dr Aditi Kanhere's research focuses on understanding how non-coding RNA, transcription factors and epigenetic modifications regulate gene expression changes in normal and diseased conditions. Her laboratory integrates cutting-edge genomics technologies with computational methods to understand mechanisms of transcription regulation in cancer.



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Birmingham Fellow and EMBO Fellow

School of Biosciences

 (</university/colleges/les/research-gallery/anne-marie-krachler.aspx>) Anne-Marie Krachler joined the University of Birmingham as a Birmingham Fellow and EMBO Fellow in 2012 and is based at the Institute of Microbiology and Infection within the School of Biosciences. Her lab studies interactions between bacterial pathogens and their host and how this knowledge can be used to fight bacterial infections and gain novel insight into eukaryotic signaling ...



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Lecturer in Computational Biology

School of Biosciences

Dr Jan-Ulrich Kreft is a microbiologist turned mathematical modeller.



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For an up-to-date publication list see my [Google Scholar page](http://scholar.google.co.uk/citations?user=hLRsYpsAAAAJ&hl=en) (<http://scholar.google.co.uk/citations?user=hLRsYpsAAAAJ&hl=en>)

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Birmingham Fellow

School of Biosciences



(</university/colleges/les/research-gallery/lindsey-leach.aspx>) Dr Leach joined the University of Birmingham as a Birmingham Fellow in 2012 and is based in the Plant Genetics and Cell Biology group in the School of Biosciences. Her work involves using statistical genetics and bioinformatic approaches to dissecting the genetic architecture of quantitative trait variation.

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Teaching and Research Fellow

School of Biosciences

Dr Lee's research focuses on the regulation of gene expression in bacteria, with particular interest in understanding how the organized bacterial chromosome impacts on, and is impacted by, transcription events. In addition, he is interested in how horizontally acquired genes, particularly transcription factors, impact upon gene expression.

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Senior lecturer

School of Biosciences

As Head of the Biological Sciences Programmes I am responsible for the overall shape of the degree programme. I am also the Masters Programmes coordinator for the School of Biosciences.

My main academic interests are in Microbiology and Molecular Biotechnology. I teach microbiology, focusing on bacteria and their role in human health and disease.

One of my other ...

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Lecturer

School of Biosciences

I am a recently appointed lecturer and my research interests involve utilising structural biology (and related techniques) to investigate protein function – many of these projects involve the unusual predatory bacterium *Bdellovibrio*; see "Research" below and be enthused!

Here is a link to a presentation at an EMBO meeting discussing our general ...

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**[Dr Pete Lund](/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?ReferencId=9661&Name=dr-pete-lund)** (</schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?ReferencId=9661&Name=dr-pete-lund>)

Reader in Molecular Microbiology

School of Biosciences

Research in our group focusses on stress responses, using prokaryotes as model systems, and using a range of appropriate methods to understand both the mechanistic details and the adaptive significance of different aspects of organismal responses to stress. We have specific interests in molecular chaperones and in acid stress responses, and also a more general interest in methods ...

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Professor of Statistical Genetics and International Student Tutor



## School of Biosciences

Professor Zewei Luo is one of the world's foremost experts in the field of Statistical Genetics. Research of his team has been focused on genetics of quantitative traits through theoretical and empirical approaches.

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Professor of Applied Microbiology

### School of Biosciences

Lynne Macaskie has been working for more than 25 years on applications of microorganisms in various areas of Biotechnology for the Environment. Her interests range from bioremediation of xenobiotics and heavy metals through to nuclear waste treatment and biomineral encapsulation and barrier agents for this.

Over the last 15 years she has moved into hydrogen ...

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Senior Lecturer

### School of Biosciences

Programme Director for Natural Sciences.

Dr Roisin Madigan teaches on a variety of courses in Biosciences and the Medical and Dental School, and has particular interest in problem-based learning.

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Senior Lecturer in Genetic Conservation

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Nigel Maxted is a Senior Lecturer in Plant Genetic Conservation, with specific expertise in *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation techniques.

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Lister Fellow & Professor of Infectious Disease

### School of Biosciences

I am Professor of Infectious Disease and Lister Fellow in the School of Biosciences. My research centres on human infectious diseases, with a particular focus on the molecular basis of host-pathogen interactions.

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Senior Lecturer

### School of Biosciences

I am the current head of Biochemistry degree programmes.

I am in the molecular and cellular biology research theme.

My research field is in calcium signalling.

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Senior Lecturer

Academic Director - Birmingham Foundation Academy





## School of Biosciences

Dr Steve Minchin has an interest in transcriptional control at both the molecular and genomic level. He has a strong interest in research-led teaching, innovation and quality management. In 2009 he was awarded the Head of Schools' Award for Excellence in Teaching and Supporting Student Learning.

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Lecturer in Behavioural Ecology and Morphology

First Year Teaching Coordinator

PASS Academic Lead

School of Biosciences

Dr Julia Myatt is a lecturer in Behavioural Ecology and Morphology and teaches on a range of modules, including field courses, across all Undergraduate years.

Julia is also the First Year Teaching Coordinator (Tutor) and oversees all academic matters (including PASS) during the first year.

Her research interests have focused on the ...

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Lecturer in Biosystems and Climate Change

School of Biosciences

I am a Lecturer in Biosystems and Environmental Change at the University of Birmingham and building my research group. I have always been at the forefront of multidisciplinary research and work with world class researchers. My research interest is understanding how natural populations adapt and evolve in response to environmental changes. The main objective of my current research is to identify ...

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Senior Lecturer

Head of Education, School of Biosciences

Birmingham University Teaching Fellow (BUTF)

School of Biosciences

I am a senior lecturer in Biology at the University of Birmingham. My research career started with roots in Wales and currently focuses on aphids in Birmingham with stops in the USA, New Zealand and Europe in between. My teaching spans field ecology through to plant functional genomics.

As a card-carrying Darwinist I am involved in teaching evolution at ...

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Reader

School of Biosciences

Dr Steve Publicover is an internationally-recognised expert on sperm physiology and signalling events in sperm initiated by sperm-egg interaction.

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Lecturer in Ornithology and Animal Conservation



## School of Biosciences

Dr Jim Reynolds has worked on the reproductive biology and the nutritional ecology of birds from many different and diverse orders including passerines, geese, grouse, kingfishers and terns. He has worked in North America and in mainland Europe in investigating how human activity influences food availability and the resulting changes in avian reproductive investment and life histories. He ...



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Lecturer

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Lecturer

School of Biosciences

My prime research interest is how the information encoded in chromosomes instructs building of the most complex organ, the brain, and allows an organism to perform elaborate tasks.

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Professor of Molecular Genetics

School of Biosciences

 (</university/colleges/les/research-gallery/chris-thomas.aspx>) Professor Thomas joined the University of Birmingham in 1980 as a Lecturer in the Department of Genetics and has been Professor of Molecular Genetics since 1991. He is an internationally recognised authority on bacterial plasmid and mobile DNA and within the university has championed Biotechnology. He was also a founder of the successful Medici Programme that encourages development of ...

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Senior Lecturer

School of Biosciences

Dr Thorpe's expertise lies in the field of ecmorphology. Her research is about understanding how organisms get to be built the way they are built, and the consequences of their design for patterns of resource use, interactions with other species, and for patterns of evolution. Specific themes in her lab at present are the evolution of human bipedalism; how animals (including ...

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Senior Research Fellow

MSci programme co-ordinator

School of Biosciences

Dr Mike Tomlinson has an international reputation in the two fields of platelets and cell surface biology, and has published in numerous edited books and scientific journals in these areas. He has been invited to speak at major international conferences, including Gordon Research and FASEB Summer Conferences in the United States, and organised the 4<sup>th</sup> European Conference on ...



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Professor of Metabolomics

Director of NERC Biomolecular Analysis Facility - Metabolomics Node

Immediate Past President of the International Metabolomics Society

School of Biosciences



[\(/university/colleges/les/research-gallery/mark-viant.aspx\)](/university/colleges/les/research-gallery/mark-viant.aspx) Professor Mark Viant's expertise lies in the field of metabolomics. His research spans from method development in analytical chemistry and bioinformatics through to the application of metabolomics to environmental toxicology.

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**[Dr Kerstin Voelz \(/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=81523&Name=dr-kerstin-voelz\)](/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=81523&Name=dr-kerstin-voelz)**

Lecturer in Eukaryotic Microbiology

School of Biosciences

Dr Voelz is a lecturer in eukaryotic microbiology with a research interest in host-pathogen interactions. She investigates how fungal pathogens circumvent and hijack innate immune responses to establish disease using a zebrafish larval model. In particular she aims to decode how fungi initiate spore germination, why the immune system sometimes fails to inhibit this process and how this ...

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**[Professor Mark Wheatley \(/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=9915&Name=professor-mark-wheatley\)](/schools/biosciences/staff/profile.aspx?Referenceld=9915&Name=professor-mark-wheatley)**

Chair of Biochemical Pharmacology

Professor Mark Wheatley has an international reputation for his research into the structure and function of G-protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs). He has national and international collaborations with both academia and the pharmaceutical industry.

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Reader in Structural Biology

School of Biosciences

Dr Scott White is an experienced structural biologist specialising in the application of x-ray crystallography to the structure and function of enzymes and their substrate, inhibitor or drug-bound complexes. He is also a Welfare Tutor and the Mitigations Officer for the School of Biosciences. He is the coordinator of the UK Midland's Block Allocation Group (BAG) for the European Synchrotron ...

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Lecturer

School of Biosciences

Dr Winn specialises in molecular modelling of biomolecules, including structural bioinformatics and analysis of protein amino-acid sequences. His interest is at the interface of protein evolution and function, and how these are related to biological organisation. As well as trying to gain general insight into the rules that govern bio-molecules, of ...

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