

Head of Communications

JOB VACANCY



Overview.

The Head of Communications will be a member of the Senior Management Team, providing leadership and management of the communications activities for the Institute and its trading subsidiaries. Working to deliver highly effective internal and external communications and engagement strategies, aligned to EI's strategic science programmes.

To find out more about this opportunity please contact Sarah Cossey, Director of Operations, at:

sarah.cossey@earlham.ac.uk
+44 (0) 1603 450787

Job details

Starting salary:
£49,540 - £60,430
(pro-rata for a part-time appointment)

Post No: 1003771

Contract length: Permanent

Hours per week: 21-37

Department: Communications

Opening date: 22 Aug 2019

Closing date: 22 Sep 2019

Ideal start date: 16 Dec 2019

We welcome applications from candidates that are seeking full or part-time work.

Apply online: bit.ly/head-comms



The role.

Applications are invited for an enthusiastic, motivated individual to join the Earlham Institute (EI) as Head of Communications.

The Head of Communications at the Earlham Institute (EI) will be responsible for identifying and nurturing local, national, and international opportunities to deliver maximum impact from our research; building on our existing reputation as a leader in genomics and computational science through the development and promotion of a clear, coherent and consistent brand, and to monitor our performance against key metrics.

Reporting to the Director of Operations, the Head of Communications will work closely with the Director, Director of Science, all Group Leaders and Faculty Members and stakeholders of our strategic partners, Biotechnology and Biological Science Research Council (BBSRC) and operational services to other international researchers, academics and EI's Trading subsidiary Genome Enterprise Limited.

The post holder should be educated to degree level and ideally have experience of working in a communications role in a research environment.

They will have a track record of successfully delivering impactful communications strategies with measurable outcomes and evidence of strategic leadership in communications and/or marketing, including setting strategy and policy development. They will be a good communicator, negotiator and ambassador of our research to industry, academia and the wider public.

Starting salary on appointment will be between £49,540 - £60,430 (pro-rata for a part-time appointment) dependent on qualifications and experience. This is a full time post on a permanent contract basis.





Who we are.

The Earlham Institute (EI) is a cutting edge, contemporary research institute and registered charity, working in an area of rapid technological development and innovation.

Established in 2009, EI is strategically funded by the BBSRC to lead the development of a skill base in bioinformatics and a genomics technology platform for UK bioscience.

The Institute is located on the Norwich Research Park, together with its partners: the John Innes Centre, the Quadram Institute, The Sainsbury Laboratory, the University of East Anglia and the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital.

The Research Park has an excellent reputation for research in plant and microbial sciences, interdisciplinary environmental science and food, diet and health, to which EI contribute strengths in genomics and bioinformatics.

Close links exist between the NRP partners and new opportunities for collaboration in exciting new initiatives are under development. The NRP recently received £26M of government investment to facilitate innovation and further develop infrastructure to attract science and technology companies to the Park to enhance the vibrant environment and realise economic impact from research investment.

Our research combines genomics, bioinformatics and molecular biology to decode living systems to improve plant and animal health, and tackle global issues of food security, climate change, conservation and human wellbeing. Read our **news releases** and **articles** and follow us on social media to learn more.





Our mission and values.

Decoding living systems is at the centre of our research activities and the impact of our work can be seen across diverse projects covering the breadth of life on earth that are helping us to improve human, animal and plant health, while aiding in researching healthier living systems.

Openness - We promote the dissemination of knowledge and distribution of data and software tools by following open and transparent data-sharing policies that are embedded in EI's research programmes.

Technical Excellence - We are committed to continuous improvement, and to work to the highest standards of quality across the organisation.

Developing and Rewarding Talent - We aim to recruit, train and retain highly skilled and talented people.

Innovation - We apply novel, state of the art technologies to deliver innovative approaches.

Collaboration - We work collaboratively, internally and externally, through mutual respect and openness.





Pursuing innovative approaches
to high-impact science in an
open, dynamic and collaborative
environment.

What we do.

Impact Stories

Discover our impact online

From food security to keeping
living things healthy and the
technology that makes it happen.

[Read our impact stories](#)

Our research brings together expertise in biosciences, bioinformatics, high performance computing, mathematics and statistics to understand complex biological systems in relation to improving crop yield and human and animal health.

Our advanced genomics and computational platforms support our data-intensive research that embraces and confronts modern scientific challenges surrounding data scale and complexity. We develop and apply methods to process, store and analyse data and extract knowledge from computational analysis and integration of diverse datasets to facilitate bioscience research.



Our science.

The faculty collectively conduct three research activities: Fundamental research to increase our knowledge base in bioscience; applied research to improve plant, animal and human health; enabling research to empower both academia and industry with new technologies and scalable bioinformatics approaches. The three scientific programmes at EI are shown below.

Find out more about our projects at EI [here](#).



Digital Biology

Computing hardware
and tool development



Organisms and Ecosystems

Plants and animals



Engineering Biology

Technology development



Our technology.

EI is a UK hub for innovative bioinformatics through research, analysis and interpretation of multiple, complex data sets. It hosts one of the largest computing hardware facilities dedicated to life science research in Europe. This has been boosted recently by a £7m e-Infrastructure grant to expand the data storage capacity to a multi-petabyte unit, deploying a high performance cluster and large-memory server enabling the allocation of processes requiring several terabytes of computing memory.

Earlham Institute operates one of the largest Research Council funded high-throughput sequencing and data analysis platforms for life sciences (National Capability in Genomics and Single Cell Sequencing). These facilities provide the UK bioscience community with access to cutting edge technologies and large data storage and computing resources.

The Institute's knowledge and experience of the latest sequencing technologies and applications allows us to engage effectively with research groups in both academia and industry, providing advice on experimental planning and tailoring data generation to help answer key scientific questions.

Working with collaborators to advance analysis and interpretation of data through effective and efficient use of Earlham Institute's high-performance computing resources. This includes access to bespoke software tools and pipelines, user training, development and dissemination of computing best-practice.



Commercial arm and working with Industry.

Genome Enterprise Ltd (GEL) is EI's commercial subsidiary, through which we offer genomic and bioinformatics services on a trading basis and works with commercial providers on a partnership basis. The Earlham Institute also receives specific funding to enable knowledge exchange programmes which are supported across the Park's institute teams.

Find out more about our Industry engagement [here](#).

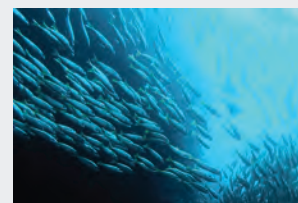
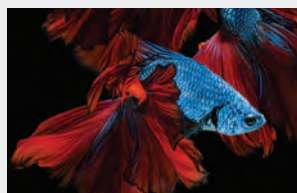
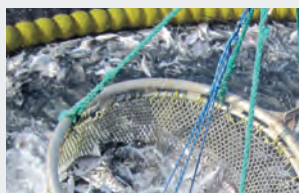
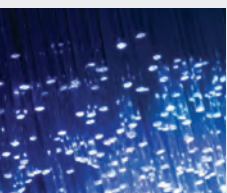
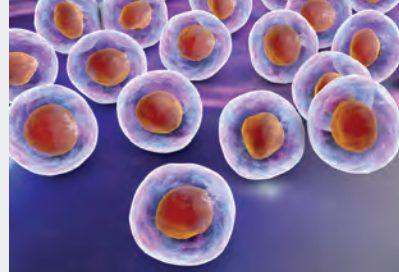


Our training facilities are state-of-the-art and designed to enhance learning.

World-class training.

An important part of EI's mission is to provide high quality training to support the current and the next generation of life scientists and bioinformaticians.

Our training courses aim to equip researchers with the necessary skills for advanced genomics through either practical short courses or tailored training for visiting workers and students.



Making a difference.

Despite being a relatively young institute, our research related to global food security has far-reaching impacts for the international scientific community, farmers, breeders and industries. Our Genomics Pipelines Group and Science Faculty have together sequenced and assembled the most accurate, complete and up-to-date version of the wheat genome, which has been distributed openly and is accessed by hundreds of users every month from Canada to Japan.

Research highlights include using mutant databases to study reverse genetics in wheat, the evolution of plant immunity, the identification of wheat genes that increase disease resistance and applying sequencing to the surveillance of plant pathogens.

Our varied research groups play a vital role in such scientific advances as exploring the functional genomics of aphid adaptation to plant defences; modelling resistance to late blight in potatoes; developing tools for the analysis of small RNA regulatory networks in plants; understanding the pathogenesis of swine flu in pigs; as well as collaborating with various institutes in order to establish novel infrastructure platforms for data and software dissemination.



Wider impact



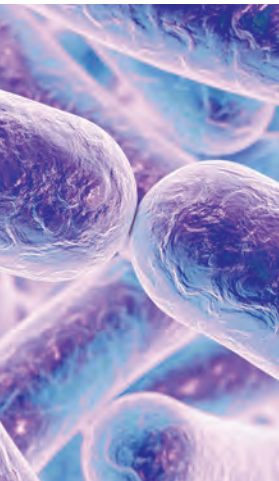
Ash dieback.

Response to the ash dieback crisis by sequencing and annotating both disease-resistant and disease-susceptible ash trees and the infectious fungus, *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*.



Yellow rust.

Greater understanding of crop pathogens including yellow (stripe) rust that poses a threat to UK wheat supplies, and potato blight, which was the major culprit in the 1845 Irish and 1846 Highland potato famines.



Salmonella.

Research into the microbiome of the human gut, an explosive new area of research which will benefit obesity and diabetes. The Earlham Institute will extend this area of research to understanding the microbiome at the soil-root interface.



Cichlid fish.

Research into fish focuses on the understanding evolution and phenotypic variation in the African cichlids of Lake Malawi. Knowledge gained will be applied to fish farmed for food.



Agriculture.

Greater genomic understanding of a range of agricultural crops including wheat, barley, strawberry, potatoes, oilseed, rice, sugar beet, red clover and *Miscanthus* (a grass under consideration for biofuel production).



Domestication.

Research into mammals, including understanding the genetic profile of dogs, so that, for example, the best puppies can be selected as guide dogs to improve the training success rate. Ferrets are being studied so that the genomics of domestication can be better understood.



Conservation.

Response to the near-extinction of the Mauritius pink pigeon, which reduced to just six wild birds. The population has now expanded and the genetic diversity of the restricted population is being analysed. The introduction of zoo birds to increase the genetic pool is now being considered.



Decoding Living Systems



Get in touch

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