Professor Gary Jones

Director of Research at Leeds Beckett University

Leeds, West Yorkshire, GB

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Biography

Gary joined Leeds Beckett in February 2016. He has held academic and postdoctoral research positions at Maynooth University, National Institutes of Health, University College London and Swansea University. He obtained a BSc (Hons) Genetics and PhD from University of Liverpool. Since embarking on a PhD in 1991 Gary?s research focus has been on the use of lower eukaryotic organisms, such as yeast and other fungi, to study aspects of cellular stress. His research expertise is in molecular biology, microbiology and genetics. During his PhD and postdoctoral training he utilized Aspergillus nidulans and Saccharomyces cerevisiae [baker?s yeast] to study DNA repair mechanisms and cellular responses to stresses such as heat shock. Due to the conservation of such molecular responses between diverse species, the findings from studies on simple model organisms such as baker?s yeast are also applicable to more complex cellular systems such as mammals. Following postdoctoral training Gary established his own research group in 2004 at Maynooth University. He maintained a productive research team producing consistent high-level research outputs and attracting significant competitive research funding from national and international sources. He has an excellent track record of successfully graduating PhD students and high-quality research supervision. During his career Gary?s research has been published in high-impact international bioscience journals such as Cell, PNAS, PLOS Genetics, PLOS Computational Biology, PLOS Pathogens, Nucleic Acids Research and Genome Research amongst others. Currently Gary?s research is focused on two broad areas i) deciphering the role of the ubiquitous stress response protein Hsp70 in diverse cellular functions, and ii) developing new therapeutic strategies to combat hard to treat fungal diseases, such as invasive aspergillosis. His research involves multidisciplinary approaches involving molecular biology, genetics, microbiology, biochemistry, biophysics, computational biology, genomics, proteomics and mass spectrometry. To utilize such diverse technologies he has established an extensive collaboration network with leading researchers based in Ireland, France, Spain, China and the USA.

Industry Expertise

Research, Education/Learning

Areas of Expertise

Microbiology, Cellular Stress, Biomedical Sciences, Genetics, Molecular Biology

Education

University of Liverpool
Ph.D. Molecular Biology

University of Liverpool
B.S. Genetics
