

Associate Pro Vice-Chancellors

Loughborough University is seeking to appoint **2 Associate Pro Vice-Chancellors (0.5 FTE)** to support the Pro Vice-Chancellor – Research & Innovation in leading the delivery of the R&I Core Plan. These roles offer a significant leadership opportunity, at a time of huge desire and progress, concerned with growing our ambition around research and innovation across Loughborough University. We are especially keen to encourage applications from across our community as part of our ongoing commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion.

The R&I Core Plan sets out key objectives, which together will strengthen Loughborough's research & innovation delivery. Each of the two Associate Pro Vice-Chancellors (APVCs) will lead across these objective areas, reporting to Professor Dan Parsons (Pro Vice-Chancellor – Research & Innovation):

- Research & Innovation – Excellence and Focus
- Research & Innovation - Impact and Internationalisation

The expectation is that each role will be filled by staff with significant experience and passion for the area, who can evidence senior leadership potential and the ability to ensure that progress is actioned and realised. The role holders will become members of the University Leadership Group.

As these are senior academic leadership positions, we would expect them to be filled from the Professoriate across the University, who have commensurate experience of delivery in an academic leadership role. We ask that applicants discuss their application with their Dean and line manager.

Should you have any questions about the roles, or the associated processes, please contact Julia Clay (J.Clay2@lboro.ac.uk), who will be able to arrange an informal discussion with the appropriate member of staff. Similarly, please do get in contact if you would like any assistance or support with your application.

APVC Job Description

These roles will be for an initial 4-year appointment, with the possibility of extension for an additional term. These leadership roles are expected to be somewhat varied in terms of workload and may increase in allocated time leading up to key events.

The purpose of this role description is to indicate the general level of duties and responsibility of the APVC role. The detailed duties may vary from time to time without changing the general character or level of responsibility entailed. The role-holder should evidence significant experience of research & innovation activity in general and with the area of focus in particular.

Organisational Responsibility

Reports to Pro Vice-Chancellor Research & Innovation, whilst retaining a substantive position within a School for the other portion of their time. The APVCs will be members of the University Leadership Group

and will be invited to Senate and other meetings as necessary. They will also liaise with relevant Professional Services staff as required, especially the Research & Innovation Office, as well as lead engagement with academics and partners in their areas of focus.

Generic Duties and Key Responsibilities

- To support the PVC R&I in delivery of the R&I Core Plan, provide strategic leadership to the delivery of R&I Core Plan objectives (and KPI's) within the portfolio, and to deputise for PVC R&I where appropriate.
- To work collaboratively with the other R&I facing staff, and the thematic APVCs and with the Director of the Research & Innovation Office, and other heads of professional services as appropriate.
- To demonstrate, through personal academic or professional example, excellence and a commitment to the institutional values.
- To serve as a member of the Research & Innovation Committee and other University bodies, as appropriate, where issues of relevance to the APVC portfolio are considered.
- To represent the University on external bodies and associations aligned with the APVC portfolio, as appropriate.
- To continue to fulfil all aspects of the substantive position with emphasis on maintaining a strong personal academic or professional profile in research & innovation or related activity.

Specific Duties

APVC Research & Innovation – Excellence and Focus

- To improve the focus of our internationally leading research and innovation activities, ensuring they are ambitious, adventurous, and aligned to our strengths.
- To work closely with the RIO Research and Partnership Development teams to bring academic expertise to the development of new processes in support of research income growth.
- To support work that increases our market share of research and innovation funding, driving innovation in partnerships that lead to meaningful change, ultimately impacting and enriching people's lives.
- To chair new Funder Liaison groups to ensure that policy insight and good funding application practices are understood and shared appropriately with the academic community.
- To support the PVC-RI as the academic lead for developing Loughborough's submission to REF2029, with a particular focus supporting work across the Units of Assessment.
- To provide leadership to the Unit of Assessment leads in schools, to Chair the REF Planning Group and be a member of REF Leadership Group.
- To identify large strategic funding opportunities, suitable teams and leaders, and to provide mentorship to these teams in development of major strategic propositions in areas of focus.

APVC Research & Innovation – Impact and Internationalisation

- To work collaboratively across the University to ensure that our research and innovation positively influences the world around us and realises societal and economic benefit at home and globally.
- To work with school leadership teams to develop research and innovation impact plans, to enhance their portfolio of impact and embed an understanding of the importance of impact throughout the academic community.
- To work with schools and research groups, and with the Policy Unit, to develop opportunities to set up, and/or engage with, existing communities of practice that bring together research users,

practitioners, academics and policy makers to increase the impact of research on policy and practice.

- To chair the Public Engagement Working Group, ensuring delivery of the public engagement strategy, compliance with relevant concordats and awards, and to enable academic staff and PGR students to understand and participate in public engagement activities by ensuring the provision of training, support and opportunities.
- To chair the REF Impact Working Group to work closely with RIO to coordinate and monitor the development of impact case studies for REF2029 and to support Unit of Assessment (UoA) leads with the development of the unit level engagement and impact preparations for REF2029.
- To chair the Impact and Knowledge Exchange Accelerator.
- To work closely with RIO, Library and schools to support and encourage the development of open research strategies and develop dissemination and publications approaches
- To work closely with RIO and schools to maximise our return to the Knowledge Exchange Framework and compliance with the Knowledge Exchange Concordat.

Person Specification

Your application will be reviewed against the essential and desirable criteria listed below. Applicants are strongly advised to explicitly state and evidence how they meet each of the essential criteria in their application. Stages of assessment are as follows:

Essential Criteria:

- Strong research and/or impact and innovation track record, as appropriate to role and career stage.
- An understanding of the issues facing the UK higher education sector.
- Experience and evidence of strategic and inspirational leadership.
- Emotionally intelligent leader with the ability to lead and influence both academic and professional colleagues.
- Demonstrated ability to work closely and effectively with colleagues, including senior colleagues across the University.
- Strong record of external engagement with the sector.
- Evidence of high levels of motivation and personal presence to support change.
- Ability to inspire and influence others beyond their own School or Service.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills to engage with colleagues, businesses, and funders.
- Values-led leadership with a commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Desirable Criteria:

- Knowledge of concordats, agreements, and awards governing research and innovation.
- In-depth knowledge of REF requirements and leadership experience in research assessments.
- Strong research and innovation funder and influence networks.
- Experience working closely with professional service leaders.