

## Job Description

<b>Role Title:</b>	Vice-Chancellor's University Fellow
<b>School / Dept:</b>	Salford Business School
<b>Reference:</b>	MPF 4306
<b>Grade:</b>	Grade 8
<b>Full or Part time:</b>	Full
<b>Hours:</b>	1.0 FTE / 36.25
<b>Reports to:</b>	Professor

## Overview

The Vice-Chancellor's University Fellows are talented early career researchers with the potential to be world-leading researchers and research-leaders at the University of Salford.

In 2026 the University will appoint a University Fellow in the economics of Artificial Intelligence. Specifically, we are seeking a fellow with expertise in AI & public policy.

Successful candidates could be from any discipline that seeks to effect social innovation and will have an international outlook and strong track-record in research. Successful candidates must demonstrate their potential to make a significant contribution to their field and to the University by furthering the excellence and reputation of their research area and delivering societal impacts through their collective, collaborative research efforts. Successful candidates will have a good regional, national and international understanding of the societal challenges faced by public or social sector bodies (see for example, Salford City Council Strategy; GMCA Strategy; UN Sustainable Development Goals), and be able to

demonstrate how their research is likely to be significant in driving social innovation. They must be interested in delivering high quality, engaging teaching in their field of research expertise, particularly after the first year of their Fellowship.

University Fellows will:

- sit with their disciplinary counterparts in one of the University's four Schools
- be part of a cohort with the other Vice-Chancellor Fellows across the University
- form part of the University's new Social Innovation Institute; to be supported in collaborating with world-leading researchers, civic partners, business, and community organisations to generate knowledge that changes lives
- develop their inter- and transdisciplinary research skills through their engagement with the Social Innovation Institute
- contribute to the aim of the Social Innovation Institute: to rethink and reform socioeconomic systems and to support a diverse, fair and inclusive society
- play an active role in our growing community of early career researchers
- make a growing contribution over the duration of the Fellowship, to the development and delivery of research-led teaching

University Fellows will be supported by dedicated mentoring from established research leaders and a bespoke cohort-based development programme.

University Fellows will have the potential to apply for £30K (over 2 years), in start-up funding, to help establish research activities and to support the development of research leadership skills at pace.

Appointments will be made on an open-ended basis. At the end of the 5-year period of the Fellowship, post holders will transfer into an academic role.

## **Principal Duties & Responsibilities**

University Fellows will begin by establishing their research careers, including developing their disciplinary and interdisciplinary research skills, and developing and delivering an interdisciplinary research programme which engage researchers and partners, from across the University and beyond. Fellows will be required to plan and deliver their research independently, and to apply for and secure external research funding appropriate to the discipline and/or 'challenge-led' funding landscape. Fellows will also be expected to make a growing contribution to the development and delivery of research-led teaching/training and academic leadership in their School, and across the University through the activities of the Social Innovation Institute, as appropriate.

The main key accountabilities or duties across the whole lifetime of the Vice-Chancellor's University Fellowship will be:

## **Research**

To undertake world-leading research and build an interdisciplinary research programme and group. In the first year, Fellows will have 80% of their time dedicated to research.

- Identify and secure external sources of funding and develop and contribute to funding bids led by others: supporting research, knowledge transfer and engagement
- Undertake collaborative research projects which span traditional disciplinary boundaries and contribute to the work of the Social Innovation Institute
- Disseminate research findings and theoretical contributions in peer reviewed journals and monographs and disseminate research findings using other appropriate media
- Report research findings and insights in practitioner reports, policy notes and using appropriate media to engage public interest
- Promote graduate studies by contributing to the supervision of postgraduate research students
- Provide thought leadership by delivering presentations at leading international conferences, delivering invited keynotes, exhibiting or delivering findings at prestigious public events
- Generate and evidence the impact of your research findings by working with public groups, businesses, policymakers and other keystone stakeholders
- Support research-led education

## **Teaching and Learning**

In the first year of the Fellowship, 20% of your time will be dedicated to teaching and learning activities. This contribution will increase year-on-year as the Fellowship progresses, to ensure cutting-edge research can be used to inform our teaching/training programmes (UG and/or PGT). University Fellows will:

- Design research-informed teaching material and deliver either across a range of modules or within a subject area
- Supervise student projects, including, where appropriate, PGT, field trips and placements
- Identify areas where current provision requires revision or enhancement
- Contribute to the planning, design and development of course and curriculum objectives and materials, in collaboration with Student Information Directorate to ensure accuracy of central databases
- Set, mark and assess work and examinations and provide feedback to students
- Act as personal tutor to a group of students
- Support and supervise students in active learning and research in accordance with the interests of the Social Innovation Institute

### **Leadership, Management and Engagement**

- Lead interdisciplinary collaboration across own area(s) of expertise, acting as mentor for less experienced colleagues
- Engage with, and participate in, the University's Performance and Career Conversations (PDR) process as reviewer and reviewee, as appropriate
- Lead and co-ordinate the work of other staff to ensure projects are delivered to the standards required
- Co-ordinate colleagues to ensure student needs and expectations are met
- Plan, co-ordinate and implement interdisciplinary research programmes or engagement projects; organisation of external activities such as student projects, field trips and industrial placements; manage or monitor research or engagement budgets and ensure effective use of resource; organise administrative duties
- Support colleagues with less experience and advise on personal development; train/advise on own area of expertise where appropriate; coach and support colleagues in developing research
- Collaborate with external organisations such as industry, public sector, charity and community groups
- Undertake tasks as might reasonable be required by the PVC Dean of School

### **Generic Duties**

- Perform any other duties appropriate to the grade as may be required by the Head of School/Head of Division etc.
- Comply with the personal health and safety responsibilities specified in the University Health and Safety policy.
- To engage with the University's commitment to put our students first and deliver services which are customer orientated, represent value for money and contribute to the financial and environmental sustainability of the University when undertaking all duties and aspects of the role.
- Advance equality, support our work towards eliminating unlawful discrimination, foster an inclusive study and work environment for students, staff and visitors in accordance with our public sector equality duties and university policy.

This role detail is a guide to the work you will initially be required to undertake. It may be changed from time to time to meet changing circumstances. It does not form part of your Contract of Employment.

## Person Specification

The successful candidate should demonstrate the following, which are 'Essential' (E) or 'Desirable' (D)

### Qualifications

1. A degree or equivalent professional qualification.  
(E)
2. A PhD in a relevant area.  
(E)

### Background and Experience

3. Recent record of excellent publications in AI economics or similar, appropriate to stage of career  
(E)
4. Evidence of the ability to obtain funding to support research, appropriate to stage of career. Including commercial, policy and consultancy funding  
(D)
5. Post-doctoral research experience or equivalent, preferably of at least two years  
(D)
6. Evidence of experience in teaching and preferably achievement, e.g. reflected in a personal teaching portfolio  
(D)
7. Experience of working collaboratively across disciplines and with non-academic stakeholders (e.g. with business, policy makers or other end users)  
(D)
8. Strong stakeholder management skills with proven track record of successfully engaging and influencing staff at all levels  
(D)

### Knowledge

9. Good understanding of the potential non-academic impacts of the research and ways of engaging in order to achieve these  
(E)
10. An understanding of working with a diverse body of students and staff, creating an inclusive culture  
(E)
11. Knowledge of the research and innovation funding sectors, the priorities of relevant funding bodies (e.g. UK Research Councils and Innovate UK), and other funding opportunities including European and global funding sources  
(E)

### **Skills and Competencies**

12. Willingness to develop and conduct interdisciplinary knowledge exchange activities including, for example engagements with businesses, industry, policy makers and public  
(E)
13. Familiarity with basic financial planning and management of resources  
(E)
14. Ability to work with colleagues across the organisation in a respectful manner including collegiate support of colleagues  
(E)
15. Self-motivation and the ability to take the lead on tasks and work with a high degree of autonomy  
(E)
16. Commitment to supporting and promoting equality and diversity goals within the University  
(E)
17. Excellent communication skills with the ability to explain complex areas  
(E)