

Job Profile

Person Specification

Job Details	
Job Title:	Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation)
School/Dept/Institute & Centre:	Office of the Principal
Reports to:	President and Principal
Grade:	Off-Scale with Vice Principal's Allowance
Working Hours:	1.0FTE)
Appointment period:	Permanent Professorial appointment with five-year term as Vice-Principal (renewable).
Current Location:	Based at the Mile End campus, with considerable time spent at other QMUL sites.

Job Context

This role will provide leadership of the highest quality for the full range of research and innovation activities at Queen Mary University of London, and will look to further strengthen the University's standing as one of the UK's foremost research intensive universities.

Queen Mary University of London is one of the UK's foremost research-intensive higher education institutions. We have a distinctive and diverse student profile, world leading research across the full spectrum of discipline areas, and an international reputation for the quality of our public and community engagement activities. It is this combination of attributes that makes Queen Mary a truly unique institution, which is seeking to transform lives, shape society and strengthen the economy, on a local, national and international level. Based predominately in a creative and culturally diverse area of east London, we have a historical and deeply-held commitment to social justice and public engagement, and our values underpin all our activity.

Job Purpose

A core aspect of the role will be to work across the institution to provide leadership for Queen Mary's research and innovation activities. This will focus on ensuring that our research-active staff are provided with the environment to undertake knowledge creation at a level that is commensurate with the University's ambitions and expectations as a world-leading, research-led University. This will include ensuring that the right structures are in place to foster and facilitate research within and across the range of discipline areas supported by the University. In doing so, the postholder will look to ensure that our activity is closely aligned with key external agendas, notably government industrial and economic policy, and associated funding opportunities. There will also be a focus on ensuring that Professional Services support is provided to support these ambitions.

The role will have a key focus on ensuring that the quality of our research is increasingly reflected in growing income from external sources to support this work, as well facilitating further increases in the level of commercialisation activity. The University is also committed to enhancing its interactions with industry and business, and the postholder will be central to this work. There will be an overarching aim to ensure that our research has an even greater impact on addressing challenges and creating opportunities at the local, national and international levels.

The postholder will work closely with other members of the Queen Mary Senior Executive (QMSE). There will also be the need for extensive interactions with colleagues in our Faculty, School and Institute structures, as well as with staff in relevant Professional Services Directorates.

Job Purpose

As a member of the QMSE, the postholder will contribute to the development and implementation of University strategy and policy. As part of this, the postholder will be expected to advise and assist the Principal, as required, on any matters associated with the University. There may be a requirement to lead on cross-institutional initiatives that do not directly relate to the Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation) portfolio.

The role will provide leadership in addressing the Research Excellence Framework across the University (and other similar assessment exercises as required of the sector). The postholder will also ensure that their work supports the achievement of relevant objectives within the portfolios of other members of QMSE.

As with all members of the Senior Executive, there is an expectation that the postholder will represent the University externally and use these opportunities to raise Queen Mary's profile and to be an advocate for the University and the wider sector, as well as shaping the future of the sector.

The post is based at the Mile End campus but there will be an expectation of working across all Queen Mary sites, alongside regular meetings at and visits to other relevant external organisations.

Main Duties & Responsibilities

Through QMSE, to contribute to the determination and delivery of institutional strategy and to determine planning and investment priorities.

To lead on the development of strategy for research and innovation at Queen Mary and the delivery of initiatives to support excellence in these areas, identifying key priorities and associated measurable targets.

To work closely with the Vice-Principals and Executive Deans, and with Deans for Research, Heads of Schools, Directors of Institutes and other senior academic colleagues in each Faculty, to enable appropriate coordination in research and innovation strategy and practice across the University.

To promote, where appropriate, cross-disciplinary and cross-Faculty activity across QMUL and its partner organisations.

To develop appropriate national and international research partnerships.

To work with Faculties and the Doctoral College to develop the recruitment and support of postgraduate research students, and the provision of an enhanced educational experience for this cohort.

To promote the education and development early-career researchers.

To promote and maintain high ethical standards in the conduct of research.

To provide leadership on the preparation for, and submission to, national assessments of research quality, and other relevant assessment exercises required of the sector.

To promote the dissemination of the outcomes of research, including commercial exploitation through Queen Mary Innovations Limited.

To develop strong working relationships with external bodies and relevant agencies in the public, private and third sectors, including the NHS, UKRI, major charities and large industrial organisations.

Main Duties & Responsibilities

To work closely with the other cross-cutting (thematic) Vice-Principals to ensure strategy and practice are developed in line with other institutional initiatives and strategies.

To work with the Chief Operating Officer and their line reports to ensure that support from Professional Services is appropriately configured to support Queen Mary's commitment to world-leading research and innovation.

To provide reports regularly to Senate and to Council as required.

To be a strong advocate, both internally and externally, of the purpose and value of universities in contributing to social, economic and cultural development.

To ensure that Queen Mary's research and innovation activities are developed and implemented in line with the institution's ethical standards and its anti-bribery and corruption policies.

To participate, as required by the Principal, in alumni relations and fundraising.

To perform other duties in agreement with the Principal.

The above list of responsibilities is not exhaustive and the jobholder may be required to undertake other duties commensurate with the level of the role, as reasonable requested by their line manager.

This job description sets out the duties of the post at the time it was drawn up. Such duties may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the duties or level of the responsibility entailed. Such variations are a common occurrence and cannot in themselves justify a reconsideration of the grading of the post.

This table lists the essential and desirable requirements needed in order to perform the job effectively. Candidates will be shortlisted based on the extent to which they meet these requirements.

	Requirements	Essential / Desirable
Qualifications	First degree.	E
	Higher degree by research.	E
	Evidence of continuing professional development.	E
Knowledge, Skills and Experience	Distinguished personal record in research and experience of both research and teaching in a higher education institution.	E
	Experience of successfully developing and implementing strategy at an institutional level relating to research and innovation.	E
	Experience of developing and overseeing the successful implementation of strategic initiatives within a complex multi-site organisation.	E
	Excellent and in-depth knowledge of issues relating to UK higher education and the context in which it is conducted.	E

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Detailed knowledge of issues relating to research and innovation in UK higher education.	E
A track record of, and a commitment to, shaping the debate and thinking about research and innovation at a national level.	E
Excellent inter-personal skills enabling constructive interactions with all university staff and external contacts	E
Ability to exercise and demonstrate sound judgement in decision making.	E
Ability to provide effective leadership at a cross-institutional level, including an awareness of the appropriateness or otherwise of delegation.	E

E – Essential: Requirements without which the job could not be done.

D – Desirable: Requirements that would enable the candidate to perform the job well.