



1 Advertisement

Post Title: Solution Architect **x2**

School/department: IT Services / IT Director's Office

Hours: Full time considered up to a maximum of 1 FTE

Requests for [flexible working](#) options will be considered (subject to business need).

Contract: Permanent

Reference: 7900 & 9068

Salary: starting at £43,414 to £51,805 per annum A market supplement (subject to biennial review) is available for this post, taking the total remuneration up to a maximum of £71,096

Placed on: 13/07/2022

Closing date: 08 August 2022 Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.

Expected Interview date: TBC

Expected start date: asap

The University of Sussex is a leading academic institution nestled in the beautiful South Downs, on the outskirts of Brighton. With staff and students from over 100 countries, we are a diverse and innovative environment, and one of the highest performing universities in the world.

Led by an award-winning Chief Digital Transformation Officer and inspirational leadership team we are now embarking on an ambitious programme of transformational change. Over the coming years, this digital transition will be an ever-developing programme supported by senior stakeholders both financially and strategically. All of this is underpinned by major construction and estate renewal, an exciting programme of work to add thousands of accommodation spaces, and a network replacement project to install the latest digital infrastructure as part of the journey towards a fully data-enabled organisation.

We are moving to an agile world and need to take the organisation on the same journey; to be sector leading and to deliver a model of digital delivery fit for the coming years. As this programme gains momentum, we need more people to join us as we unpick our challenges and legacy systems and move towards meeting our potential.

The Solution Architect, will be a key member of the IT Services Team responsible for developing creative, robust, scalable and reusable strategies and solutions to meet client requirements and deliver business benefits to the University of Sussex.

The role will define and manage the technical scope of projects, in line with defined principles and standards, across the IT project portfolio.

Furthermore, the Solution Architect will partner with business and technology development teams, understanding organisational and departmental strategy and assisting in the translation of requirements into a solution vision, high-level business and/or IT system specifications. The role will then lead in designing, specifying, and selecting solutions that address requirements of functionality, data, security, integration, infrastructure and performance.

In this role you will be expected to work with Project Managers and Business Analysts to develop high level project schedule resource plans, cost estimates, and help prepare business cases for implementation projects.

You will also be required to seek out new industry and technology trends and apply this knowledge to solving business problems. As well as, helping to update, review, and maintain the enterprise architecture models and knowledge base, ensuring any changes to the IT environment are captured and documented to a high quality.

For further information or to apply contact Tom King/Lawrence Harris at Global Resourcing: US@global-resourcing.com / 020 8253 1806.

For full details and how to apply see our [vacancies page](#)

The University of Sussex values the diversity of its staff and students and we welcome applicants from all backgrounds.

2. The School / Division

IT Services delivers a wide range of digital services to users across our Campus and beyond. Our Chief Digital Transformation Officer, Jason Oliver, is now tasked with shaping the strategic initiatives and strategies that will secure a successful and sustainable future for the institution, where digital technology and mobile platforms will increasingly transcend physical and geographical boundaries providing opportunities for the transformation of our students' and staff lives. Prior to joining Sussex he undertook similar advancements at the Science Museum Group and the Royal Opera House, where he built sector-leading teams and delivered a large-scale transformation agendas resulting in step-changes in organisational culture.

IT Services is organised into four main teams, delivering services through an evolving agile service management and delivery model:

The **Digital Engagement** team are primary changes agents working to transform our business processes and systems, to nurture the relationships between IT Services and its stakeholders, and helping us to understand and develop the ambitions for our use of digital technologies in education, research, student services and university administration.

The **Strategy and Architecture** team ensure our strategies, technologies, security and standards support our digital aspirations whilst planning the replacement, upgrades and improvements to our technologies and systems, ensuring that they are aligned and prioritised around the University's strategic plans and objectives.

The **Infrastructure** team work to define, modernise and automate our underlying platforms and network ensuring that they are optimised to meet the needs of the diverse communities

across the University, to continue our journey to the cloud and to advance our approaches to ubiquitous connectivity across our campus.

The **Operations** team work across the research, teaching, professional services and student groups to manage our product areas, develop and integrate our platforms and applications, and support our communities to ensure outstanding service provision across the operational activity of IT Services.

3. Job Description

Job Description for the post of: **Solution Architect**

Department: IT Services

Section/Unit/School: Strategy and Architecture

Location: Shawcross, Falmer campus

Grade: 8

Responsible to: Assistant Director, Strategy and Architecture

Responsible for: n/a

Role description:

The Solution Architect will be responsible for developing creative, robust, scalable and reusable strategies and solutions to meet client requirements and deliver business benefits to the University of Sussex.

The role will define and manage the technical scope of projects, in line with defined principles and standards, across the IT project portfolio.

The Solution Architect will partner with business and technology development teams, understanding organisational and departmental strategy and assisting in the translation of requirements into a solution vision, high-level business and/or IT system specifications. The role will then lead in designing, specifying, and selecting solutions that address requirements of functionality, data, security, integration, infrastructure and performance.

The role will work with Project Managers and Business Analysts to develop high level project schedule resource plans, cost estimates, and help prepare business cases for implementation projects.

The role will be required to seek out new industry and technology trends and apply this knowledge to solving business problems.

The role will also help to update, review, and maintain the enterprise architecture models and knowledge base, ensuring any changes to the IT environment are captured and documented to a high quality.

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. Technically lead in designing, specifying and selecting appropriate solutions, considering functionality, data, security, integration, infrastructure and performance.
2. Partner with key stakeholders to understand organisation-wide and departmental strategies and agree technology solutions to meet those needs.
3. Identify and analyse business drivers that derive enterprise business, information, technical and solution architecture requirements.
4. Consult with programme and project teams to fit solutions to architecture across all viewpoints.
5. Support and direct the technical teams and third-party supplier in the building and deployment of solutions.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1. Provide technical leadership that aligns with University requirements**
 - 1.1. Understand, advocate and support the University's business and IT strategies
 - 1.2. Analysing industry, technology and market trends to determine their potential impacts on the University
 - 1.3. To keep up to date with latest IT requirements and technology
- 2. Provide excellent technical design support to projects and programmes**
 - 2.1. Work with technical leads to ensure correct migration and integration
 - 2.2. To do detailed design for the re-use of technology components
 - 2.3. Provide expert guidance and mentoring to project team members where required
 - 2.4. To identify risks and issues and address or raise them with others as necessary
- 3. Maintain and enhance the University enterprise architecture**
 - 3.1. Develop and maintain supporting documentation within the requirement of the Enterprise Architecture Framework, including submitting designs and required papers to the Architecture Review Board
 - 3.2. Continuously review and impact assess technical deliverables and plans, providing quality control according to agreed standards and principles

3.3. Assist in the development and maintenance of the model of current and future enterprise architecture

4. Foster and maintain excellent professional relationships

4.1. Support other Architects and technical team members in their roles where appropriate

4.2. Engage and liaise with 3rd party suppliers, business partners and external vendors

4.3. To work effectively, collaboratively, and strategically with project and business teams to ensure excellent outcomes and success of University activities

This Job Description sets out current duties of the post that may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the post or level of responsibility entailed.

INDICATIVE PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- Provide technical leadership across multiple concurrent projects.
- Responsible for the maintenance of Solution Architecture assets including, but not limited to, roadmaps, application and integration catalogues, technical design documentation, technical standards.
- Attendance and active participation in the Architecture Review Board (ARB), Change Advisory Board (CAB) and project governance groups.
- Provide project deliverables within agreed time and quality parameters and with sufficiency of detail to enable all requiring stakeholders to progress their work.
- The post holder reports to the Assistant Director, Strategy and Architecture, working under broad direction to enable the post holder to manage their own work and that of their team members, to achieve their agreed objectives. The role holder will play a key role as part of the Divisional leadership team in supporting the achievement of the strategic and operational goals of the University, Professional Services & their Division. The post holder is expected to work collaboratively across the University and with key stakeholders to deliver single team working that efficiently and effectively supports the achievement of those goals and objectives.
- Support achievement of the Division's/Unit's/School's compliance with all applicable statutory and regulatory compliance obligations, including (but not limited to): UKVI, Health & Safety, the Prevent Duty, data protection, Competition and Markets Authority requirements and equal opportunities, as appropriate to the grade and role. Additionally, to promote good practice in relation to University policy, procedure and guidance in relation to those compliance matters in respect of students, staff and other relevant parties.
- Balance effectiveness and cost-efficiency in the management of the budgets you are accountable for, demonstrating compliance with Value for Money and Return on Investment principles to support the University's strategic aim to achieve a world-

class standard of teaching and research by managing our resources effectively and efficiently.

4. Person Specification

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

1. Educated to degree level or equivalent qualification, or relevant level of industry experience.
2. A detailed applied and theoretical knowledge and understanding of technical design and architecture.
3. Effective management skills.
4. Well-developed oral and written communication skills with the ability to present policy and procedure in a way that can be understood the audience.
5. Planning and organisational skills, including project management, with the ability to delegate to team members where appropriate.
6. Well-developed interpersonal skills with the ability to effectively influence, persuade and negotiate in area of expertise, effectively contribute to team working to build and develop working relationships.
7. Analytical skills with the ability to generate effective solutions and make effective decisions.
8. Commitment to customer excellence.
9. Able to manage time effectively and work proactively across multiple projects and initiatives.
10. Experience of technical leadership within mid- to large-size projects.

ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

1. Minimum 3yrs experience in an architecture role.
2. Certification of Enterprise Architecture methodologies such as TOGAF or the equivalent.
3. Considerable experience in solution design including options appraisal, integration, security and migration requirements, capability modelling and viewpoint analysis and development.
4. Experience of development of high- and low-level solution designs, principles, standards and models.

5. Experience of technical migration planning.
6. Experience of working with 3rd party suppliers and integrators.
7. Demonstrable analysis of technical issues, translating this analysis into technical designs that describe a solution, including the use of modelling and mark-up languages such as TOGAF, Archimate or UML.
8. Demonstrable understanding of IT systems, architecture practice and approach.
9. Knowledge of cyber security principles and best practice.
10. Familiar with the UK Data Protection legislation.
11. Knowledge of cloud-based architectures.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

1. Technical certification for major cloud providers such as AWS, Azure and Google.
2. Experience with Archimate modelling language.
3. Familiarity with HE Business Processes and systems.