DEPUTY PRO-VICE CHANCELLOR, Student Experience

Role Description

This is a senior role, working closely with the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education and Students), created to provide dedicated leadership to the development and delivery of the University’s Learn to Transform strategy.

Under the delegated authority of the Vice-Chancellor, the role holder will work closely with all parts of the University, including the Executive, Schools, Professional Services and the Students’ Union and student body, fostering individual and collective contribution, in the promotion and advancement of the education experience at Sussex. The role holder will take a leading role in fostering and developing the Learn to Transform Network, and will help continue the education initiatives inspired by the Pedagogic Revolution.

The role holder will combine the Deputy Pro Vice-Chancellorship with an academic post, on a 50/50 basis.

The key responsibilities of the role will be as follows:

1. To work with the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (E&S), the Vice-Chancellor and other colleagues in delivering the aims of the Learn to Transform Strategy for Sussex which fosters an inclusive and positive environment for students, staff and visitors.
2. Lead the development of specific education related projects and events to help improve student satisfaction scores on the NSS and other student surveys.
3. Lead the University’s work in raising its profile in relation to the student experience, and establishing a framework for measuring the University’s effectiveness in these areas.
4. Work closely with relevant colleagues in the Schools to advance and promote the enhancement of education.
5. Foster and develop the Learn to Transform Network.
6. Enhance the University’s participation in external education events and recommend ways in which Sussex can help to shape the regional, national and international agendas.
7. Ensure that a perspective of achieving education excellence is provided to key institutional projects.
8. At the request of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, act as Chair or Co-Chair for the key education committees.
9. Undertake other duties as agreed with the Vice-Chancellor.

Person Specification

1. Academic credibility with the experience and understanding to influence across disciplines.
2. Able to demonstrate successful leadership.
3. Sound knowledge of key issues, challenges and opportunities in the area of best practice in education and assessment, especially in Higher Education.
4. Understanding of how the education and innovation agenda contributes to achieving the University’s strategic objectives.
5. Ability to plan and deliver projects and turn strategy into action.
6. A high level of personal commitment, tenacity and focus.
7. An open, collaborative and supportive working style with the ability to engage a range of stakeholders in strategic discussions and achieve consensus.
Process of Appointment

This appointment is open to internal applicants only, from senior members of the academic staff, normally at professorial level.

Applications should consist of:

- a covering letter
- full CV detailing relevant academic qualifications
- employment-history
- achievements relative to the role

Where candidates have particular requirements if invited to interview, this should be stated in their covering letter. Applications should be addressed to Professor Adam Tickell, Vice-Chancellor, and either emailed to profservicesrecruitment@sussex.ac.uk

The closing date for applications is 29 March 2020.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to and interview to be held on 21 May 2020 with an Appointing Committee chaired by the Vice-Chancellor.

The University values diversity and is committed to promoting equality and diversity, providing an inclusive and supportive environment for all. The University aims to ensure that job applicants and members of staff are treated solely on the basis of abilities and potential, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, trade union membership or non-membership, socio-economic background or any other inappropriate distinction.

Potential candidates are welcome to arrange an informal chat with the Vice-Chancellor and should contact Zoe Varney-Burch at zh.varney-burch@sussex.ac.uk or on 8028 to arrange.

Terms of appointment

The successful candidate will hold a senior academic post at the University and will devote 50% of their time to the Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellorship.

The appointment as Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor will be for an initial term of 5 years, renewable by a mutual agreement for a further two years.

The successful candidate will be expected to take up the role as soon as practicable.

January 2020