1 Advertisement

Post Title: Professor of Innovation and Sustainable Transitions  
School/department: University of Sussex Business School, Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU)  
Hours: Full time  
Requests for flexible working options will be considered (subject to business need).  
Contract: permanent  
Reference: 6077  
Salary: Competitive  
Placed on: 15 June 2021  
Closing date: 29 June 2021. Applications must be received by midnight of the closing date.  
Expected Interview date: 16 July 2021  
Expected start date: September 2021

The University of Sussex Business School’s Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU) is seeking to appoint an outstanding Professor of Innovation and Sustainable Transitions.

The successful candidate will have an extensive and world-leading publication and citation record in leading innovation management and policy journals; significant experience of high-quality teaching, curriculum development and PhD supervision; and a proven track record of securing grants from external funding agencies and research leadership in managing large projects.

The Professor will be expected to significantly reinforce the School’s global reputation as a leading centre for innovation studies, and SPRU’s research leadership in sustainable transitions.

Please contact Professor Jeremy Hall (jeremy.k.hall@sussex.ac.uk) for informal enquiries.

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

The University of Sussex Business School is a unique research-focused interdisciplinary school, which takes a strong policy-directed view on business practices while also developing the underlying core disciplines. It includes the Department of Accounting and Finance, the Department of Strategy and Marketing, the Department of Management, the Department of Economics and the Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU). With such excellent foundations the University of Sussex Business School offers something
distinctive and special to the future of business and management research and education in the UK and beyond. It is exceptionally well placed to provide leadership in the development and dissemination of sustainable business and management practice, informed by sound economic logic.

Please find further information regarding the school and SPRU at:
https://www.sussex.ac.uk/business-school/
https://www.sussex.ac.uk/business-school/people-and-departments/spru

3. Job Description

Job Title: Professor of Innovation and Sustainable Transitions
Grade: Professor (Research & Education focussed) Grade 10
School: University of Sussex Business School
Location: Jubilee Building, Falmer campus
Responsible to: Head of School
Direct reports: n/a
Key contacts: Students, other members of Faculty within the School and University, School Officers, academics of similar standing in the field in other institutions.

Role description: Professor is the most senior career-grade teaching and research position. Post-holders are expected to show high academic standing, to make a broad and sustained contribution to their field and discipline nationally and internationally, and to demonstrate sustained exceptional performance in research. They will demonstrate academic leadership in both teaching and research, and support the management and strategic planning processes of the School and the University.

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. To provide academic leadership in the design and delivery of innovative and high-quality teaching programmes.

2. To engage in high-quality research activity resulting in high-quality publications to be submitted to the REF at acceptable levels of volume and academic excellence; to lead major research projects; to consistently secure research funding and third-stream income; and to play a key role in the development and implementation of the School research strategy.
3. To provide guidance, support and mentoring to junior members of staff working in the same or cognate research areas.

4. To play a key role in supporting the management activities of the School and University, and to undertake a significant School directorship role if required.
KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. **Teaching & Student Support**

1.1 Lead the innovative design, development and delivery of the overall curricula.

1.2 Develop the quality assurance framework within the University’s overall framework e.g. for the validation and re-validation of courses.

1.3 Regularly review and update course content and teaching materials, ensuring that they remain up-to-date and relevant, incorporating advances in the subject area and utilising appropriate technology.

1.4 Set, mark, and assess work and examinations; select appropriate assessment instruments and criteria; and provide constructive and comprehensive feedback to students.

1.5 Actively maintain an understanding of appropriate pedagogy in the subject area.

1.6 Provide academic leadership and inspiration to those teaching within subject area.

1.7 Supervise PhD students and/or externally-funded post doctoral staff.

1.8 Undertake and complete administrative duties required in the professional delivery of teaching.

1.9 Undertake academic advising duties, and provide first-line support for sensitive issues, referring on as appropriate to services providing further assistance.

1.10 Adopt an approachable and accessible attitude towards students, offering office hours, informal advice etc.

2. **Research, Scholarship & Enterprise**

2.1 Play a leading role in the development and implementation of School research strategies and themes, and lead and co-ordinate research activity in own subject.

2.2 Identify and develop research objectives, and proposals for own or joint research.
2.3 Carry out independent research and act as a Principal Investigator or project leader on major research projects. This may involve leading and line-managing the staff including their recruitment, probation, mentoring, performance review and staff development; managing the budget, and taking responsibility for the delivery of the programme.

2.4 Define research objectives and questions, review and synthesise the outcomes of research studies, and develop ideas for application of research outcomes.

2.5 Develop proposals for major research projects which will make a significant impact, and lead to an increase in knowledge or understanding or the development of new explanations, insights, concepts or processes.

2.6 Produce high-quality research outputs that are world-leading in the field, for publication in monographs or recognised high-quality journals, or performance/exhibition, as appropriate, and make a significant contribution to the School’s REF assessment at acceptable levels of volume and academic excellence.

2.7 Make presentations at national and international conferences or exhibit work in other appropriate events of a similar standing, and play a lead role in identifying ways to disseminate research outputs informally via the internet, the media and other forms of public engagement.

2.8 Develop and maintain an independent research reputation by, for example, serving on peer review committees, or acting as a referee for journal articles or research grant applications.

2.9 Play a key role in the internal management of the REF assessment exercise.

2.10 Play a lead role in identifying sources of funding and securing bids, both individually and in collaboration with others.

2.11 Play a lead role in identifying and exploring opportunities for enterprise activity, knowledge exchange income and/or consultancy.

2.12 Provide academic leadership and inspiration to those working within own research area, and foster inter-disciplinary team-working.

2.13 Lead and develop internal and external networks to foster collaboration on both an individual level and on behalf of others in the School, share information and ideas, and promote the subject and the University, both nationally and internationally.
2.14 Develop successful links with external contacts such as other educational and research bodies, employers, professional bodies and other providers of funding and research initiatives to foster collaboration and generate income, and to influence the external research and policy agenda.

2.15 Contribute to the enhancement of research quality and thinking in the field by being involved in quality assurance and other external decision-making bodies.

2.16 Act as a leading authority in the field or specialism, developing new knowledge, understanding and innovation in the area.

2.17 Conduct risk assessments and take responsibility for the health and safety of others, if required.

3. Contribution to School & University

3.1 Attend and contribute to School meetings.

3.2 Contribute to the overall management of the School in areas such as budget management and business planning.

3.3 Contribute to School- and University-level strategic planning and development.

3.4 Engage in activities beyond day-to-day teaching duties, for example Admissions Days.

3.5 Assist with undergraduate and postgraduate recruitment.

3.6 Chair School or University committees, and participate in University decision-making and governance.

3.7 Undertake a School directorship role, for example Director of Research.

3.8 Advise and provide support to less experienced colleagues, and conduct Performance and Development Reviews, if required.

3.9 Mentor staff in related or cognate research areas, providing advice on personal and career development plans, and assisting them in identifying and securing career development opportunities.
3.10 Undertake additional administrative duties, as required by the Head of School.

4. Role-specific duties

4.1 Take a leadership role in research development in the area of innovation studies and sustainable transitions

4.2 Engage with a variety of academic, policy and business audiences and agendas

4.3 Establish a network of business and policy actors, involving them in guest lecturing and research participation including knowledge diffusion for policy and managerial impact.

4.4 Provide leadership in developing postgraduate and undergraduate teaching content, particularly in the areas of innovation studies and sustainable transitions, in SPRU, the Business School and across the University.

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

- Evidence of quality in teaching and learning demonstrated in a range of measures, including student satisfaction; of thoughtful and effective innovation in the development of new courses and/or programmes; and of leadership in the promotion of teaching and learning in the subject.

- Proven innovative teaching practice, typically adopted as best-practice within the institution.

- Evidence of providing, or demonstrable potential to provide academic leadership, development, mentoring and career management advice for colleagues, research assistants and students in the area of teaching and learning.

- A record of consistent involvement in external examining at research-intensive universities, and other forms of engagement in upholding academic standards.

- Leadership of a national subject association.

- Evidence of commitment to improving the student experience and/or leadership of a major change project designed to improve the student experience.

- Publication of highly-regarded text books or other significant teaching materials for use in higher education, chosen by third parties on a discretionary basis.

- Evidence of sustained output of high-quality research publications or other recognised forms of output, subjected to peer review and describing significant discoveries, applications or observations.

- Evidence of leadership in the discipline and cognate disciplines, demonstrating an ability to inspire colleagues to develop their own research potential, including partnerships with individuals and/or bodies of international standing.

- Sustained record of attracting funds year-on-year, which are notable awards in terms of size and scope, and of leadership of and collaboration in significant research projects and/or consultancy or work with external organisations.

- Transfer of intellectual property into the wider economy.
- Development of research and consulting relationships with other organisations, and development of business and community links that bring tangible benefits to the University.

- Sustained record of successful postgraduate research supervision.

- Academic distinctions (e.g. academic awards; editorship of, or refereeing for, journals; grant reviewer for awarding bodies; services for learned societies; election to Fellowships).

- Transfer of research findings into practical applications and/or enrichment of the wider culture through creativity in the social sciences, humanities and the visual and performing arts.

- External and visiting appointments.

- Influence on the formulation of policy.

- Advancement of the discipline through a distinctive contribution to intellectual leadership, professional, clinical or vocational practice.

- Evidence of enhancing the international standing and profile of the School and University.

- A sustained contribution to the delivery of University and/or School strategy.

- Evidence of exceptional collegiality.

- A leadership role within the University, creating significant performance improvement.
PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

1. Educated to doctoral level in a relevant discipline (see role-specific criteria below).

2. In-depth knowledge of specialism to enable the development of new knowledge, innovation and understanding in the field.

3. Excellent interpersonal skills, with the proven ability to engage with students using a variety of different methods.

4. Excellent presentation skills, with the proven ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with students, colleagues and external audiences.

5. Significant experience of high-quality teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate level.

6. Successful track record of innovative curriculum design or redesign.

7. Significant track record of influential publications in reputable journals and other appropriate media of similar standing.

8. Successful and sustained track record of generating research and knowledge exchange income that is notable in terms of size and scope, and the translation of research results into practice.

9. Experience of successfully leading large externally-funded research projects.

10. An international reputation in the field of study.

11. Successful track record of supervising postgraduate students.

12. Evidence of proactive contribution to the School and/or University.

13. Leadership and people management skills.

Commitment to collegiality and inter-disciplinary working.

Excellent organisational and administrative skills.

Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.

A willingness to participate in support activities beyond normal teaching duties.

Excellent IT skills, with the ability to produce high-quality learning support materials.
ESSENTIAL ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

1. A PhD in a related field (e.g. Economics of Innovation, Science and Technology Policy, Innovation Management).
2. Proven track record of securing research funding in the areas of innovation studies, management and/or sustainable development.
3. Experience of successful curriculum design or re-design and adoption/development of innovative research-informed teaching methods.
4. Excellent knowledge of contemporary issues and debates within the area of innovation policy and sustainability transitions.
5. Ability to communicate to academics and students with a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds.
6. A proven publication and citation record in innovation management/policy journals, as measured for example by official status as a Clarivate Highly Cited Researcher.
7. Evidence of research impact in innovation policy and management.
8. Evidence of leadership and engagement with the relevant academic communities and associations

DESIRABLE ROLE-SPECIFIC CRITERIA

1. A recognised higher education teaching qualification.
2. Evidence of research partnerships with international research institutes, especially in the European Union.
3. Membership of professional body