

Faculty of Humanities

Associate Dean: Civic Engagement and Innovation

Responsible to:

Vice-Dean for Research, Faculty of Humanities, and the Vice-President & Dean of the Faculty of Humanities.

Overall purpose:

The Associate Dean for Civic Engagement and Innovation will play a pivotal role in driving the Faculty's innovation agenda, leading initiatives that foster business engagement and delivers meaningful civic and cultural partnerships. In line with the *From Manchester for the world 2035* Strategic Plan, and particularly the 'Powerhouse of Innovation Leap', the post holder will support the Vice Dean for Research and Innovation and the Vice President and Dean of the Faculty in realising this vision for our faculty.

Through working collaboratively across the Humanities community, the post holder will be responsible for updating and developing the Faculty's Civic Engagement and Innovation plan, with the aim of broadening and enhancing commercial and cultural partnerships to deliver economic, social and societal impact. The post holder will provide strategic leadership to strengthen existing partnerships and develop new relationships, creating new research and teaching opportunities and associated income streams. These partnerships may include private sector companies, government and public sector organisations, and non-government organisations (NGOs), charities and other 'not for profit' social and cultural organisations whose primary purpose is something other than the support of higher education or research funding. The post holder will also identify opportunities for students and staff engagement in translating ideas and research into societal and commercial ventures, and support student employability frameworks through activities such as placements.

The role also involves strategic responsibilities across and beyond the University, and the post holder will be required to work collaboratively with University innovation leaders including the Vice-President for Civic Engagement and Innovation, Associate Vice President for Enterprise, Director of Business Engagement and Knowledge Exchange, the CEO of the Innovation Factory, the CEO of Unit M, the Director of the Masood Entrepreneurship Centre and the relevant members of the other two Faculties' leadership and management teams, through membership of the University's Innovation Committee.

The Associate Dean for Civic Engagement and Innovation will work alongside and be supported by School Research Directors and Business Engagement leads, relevant RBES colleagues, AD Research: Impact, AD Research: PGR, Vice-Dean Social Responsibility, AD Internationalisation, the Platform and Institute Leads as appropriate, and with the wider Faculty and School Leadership teams.

The post will be for a period of three years, with the possibility of renewal by mutual agreement and will carry a workload adjustment of 40%. The person appointed will continue to hold their substantive appointment, to which they will revert on a full-time basis following their period as Associate Dean. There is an additional allowance of £5,000 per annum paid to the post holder on top of the salary pertaining to their substantive post.

Key Duties and Responsibilities:

The Associate Dean for Civic Engagement and Innovation will lead the development of innovative methodologies in support of the ambitions of the Faculty and Schools for success in collaborative Research and Innovation. The post holder will act as the academic figurehead and lead introductory conversations which enable impact from research, cultural and business engagement and innovation more broadly. Key elements of the role include:

- To lead and deliver a plan which will support the ambitions embedded in our research, teaching, innovation and social responsibility goals and contributing to the delivery of the Manchester 2035 Strategy for Faculty specific civic engagement business engagement and innovation activity.
- To design and implement strategies which will enable the Faculty to deliver impact from research translation and cultural and commercial partnerships.
- To work in partnership with PS teams, Faculty and School leadership teams to ensure effective operationalisation of civic and innovation strategies.
- To develop a pipeline of strategic business partnerships with appropriate scope to ensure a sustainable approach to industry engagement and source of research income.
- To develop national and international business strategic partnerships. To act as an advocate for use of the costing and pricing policy and work in partnership with the BE Team to ensure compliance.
- To work with ADs for Business Engagement and Innovation in other Faculties to encourage and promote opportunities for cross-Faculty collaborations, joined-up approaches to strategies and operations and bids for industry funding.
- To communicate and help implement University civic engagement and innovation strategies and opportunities.
- To engage with Unit M to develop innovative partnership and contribute to building the University innovation ecosystem.
- To act as the senior academic contact for the Innovation Factory and encourage work with colleagues to bring forward and develop intellectual property disclosures that may have value societal or commercial value through licensing and spin-outs.
- To contribute to the roll out of training and development opportunities for colleagues in the opportunities and mechanisms for effective research translation, business engagement and innovation.
- To work with the Vice-Dean for Social Responsibility to position the Faculty to contribute to, and take full advantage of, the University and City's cultural endowments.
- To chair or attend Faculty working groups, such as HRSC and the Humanities Business Engagement Strategy Group, comprising the Faculty Business Engagement team, School Business Engagement Leads, and AMBS External Relations lead; and other stakeholders that may become relevant for the effective delivery of business engagement and civic and cultural partnership activities across the Faculty and wider University.
- To work closely with the Vice-President for Civic Engagement and Innovation through membership of the University Innovation Committee, to identify and develop relevant opportunities beyond the usual sphere of Humanities' innovation activities.
- To act as an introductory voice to gauge commercial interest in our post graduate offerings, working closely with the AD for Postgraduate Research.
- To report to the Vice-Dean for Research on review and progress towards delivery of the Faculty Civic Engagement and Innovation plan, including identifying barriers and possible solutions.
- To represent the Vice-President & Dean or the Vice-Dean for Research within the University and externally as required.

Person Specification:

The post-holder must possess the following skills, knowledge and qualities:

Leadership and management

- A senior academic member of staff (Senior Lecturer or above).
- A strong commitment to the strategic goals of the University and Faculty especially in relation to innovation, business engagement, civic and cultural partnerships and entrepreneurship.
- An understanding of the issues and challenges of civic engagement and innovation across the full range of the Faculty's academic disciplines.
- A successful and proven record of academic leadership at School, Faculty or University level or in an external role.
- Evidence of working well in teams and having built effective relationships at all levels.
- Evidence of having taken ownership and responsibility.

Academic Background and Expertise

- A successful and proven record of academic leadership and excellence in civic engagement and innovation, with experience of building relationships with external partners and delivering tangible impact from teaching, research or social responsibility.
- A research and innovation profile which will inspire the confidence of academic colleagues.
- A record of leadership and commitment to excellence in research and innovation.
- Must have a clear vision of the research and innovation goals of the University and the Faculty, in relation to civic engagement, and how these can best be achieved.
- An understanding of the strategic issues affecting partnership activity within the Faculty, University, nationally and internationally.
- Experience in generating tangible impact from teaching, research, innovation or social responsibility activities.

Personal qualities

- A strategic and creative thinker who can successfully design, initiate, implement, and manage change.
- The ability to build collegial relationships at all levels, and to create a shared purpose and commitment.
- A leadership style which values and demonstrates consultation, collegiality, and personal integrity.
- The ability to develop and work effectively with teams, to accept responsibility willingly, and to delegate appropriately.
- The ability to build collegial relationships at all levels, and to create a shared purpose and commitment.
- A high level of communication and interpersonal skills.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills; including listening skills.
- Someone who takes pleasure in the achievements of others.