

**Job Description for the Post of Senior Researcher
I-ACT (Institute for Applied Creative Thinking) (Ref: AMD09/15)**

1. General Details

Job Title:	Senior Researcher
Location:	Faculty of Arts, Media and Design I-ACT (Institute for Applied Creative Thinking)
Normal workbase:	Stoke Campus
Tenure:	Fixed term for 2 years in the first instance
Salary:	Grade 7 currently £30,747 - £35,646 per annum [pro rata]

2. Job Purpose

To contribute to the growth and development of the I-ACT (Institute for Applied Creative Thinking) Applied Research Centre (ARC) within the Faculty of Arts Media and Design.

3. Relationships

Responsible to: Faculty Director for Enterprise Research and Knowledge Transfer in the Faculty of Arts Media and Design and functionally managed by Director of I-ACT

4. Main Activities

- To carry out a high level of research in areas that encompass the development and application of creative thinking and/or practice to a variety of social, organisational and business problems
- To promote a culture of collaborative working between practice-based and more traditional academic disciplines
- To develop collaboration and partnership with key stakeholders in the region, nationally and internationally
- To identify and secure research income and external funding and to co-ordinate and support funding bids by colleagues in the ARC
- To disseminate research through a variety of appropriate methods
- To manage research projects e.g. design appropriate trials and other methods, ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements (research governance and ethical issues), co-ordinate data collection and analysis
- To manage research contracts and budgets
- To provide various forms of consultancy and other services to external clients
- To manage the development of products and demonstrators for the ARC and industrial partners
- To represent the University on local and regional committees and partnerships
- To contribute to the development of capacity and capability for research and knowledge transfer programmes within the ARC
- To contribute to the University's submission for the Research Excellence Framework
- To ensure research outcomes are fed into the teaching and learning process
- To contribute to teaching and learning activities not normally exceeding 144 hours per year including teaching related activity

5. Person Sought

Essential Criteria:

- Possession of a PhD degree
- A commitment to research, scholarship and learning
- Experience in the application of research in the arts and humanities to public, private and or voluntary sector problems
- Experience of initiating and developing successful research bids/funding applications
- Evidence of research publications and outputs
- Awareness of a range of methodological issues
- Ability and experience in carrying out the required academic research in a logical and rigorous manner within agreed timescales
- Ability to present complex information in a clear and logical manner and to draft research reports
- Evidence of appropriate dissemination of research outcomes
- Ability to co-ordinate, lead, manage and develop research teams and projects
- Ability and commitment to working within a team environment
- A high level of motivation
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Excellent presentation skills, with the ability to present research findings to a wide audience
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Good IT skills with experience of presentation software.
- Commitment to the University's mission and delivery of the University Plan
- A willingness to engage in a structured induction programme as a start to Continuing Professional Development (CPD) at the University
- Commitment to CPD and keeping up to date with best research practice and management

Desirable Criteria:

- Knowledge of funding initiatives
- Consultancy experience
- Previous experience of teaching
- Evidence of successful supervision of research students

6. Special Conditions

This is a fractional (0.8) post available on a fixed term basis for 2 years in the first instance. Quality and quantity of outputs generated by the senior researcher will be reviewed on a yearly basis and continuation of the role will be subject to satisfactory progress of these reviews.

Date Job Description Revised

March 2010

Variation to Job Description

Staffordshire University reserves the right to vary the duties and responsibilities of its employees within the general conditions of the Scheme of pay and conditions and employment related matters. Thus it must be appreciated that the duties and responsibilities outlined above may be altered as the changing needs of the service may require.

Conditions of Service

The post is subject to such terms and conditions of employment as negotiated between the Board of Governors of the University and the recognised trade unions, and/or the employees of the University. In negotiating such terms and conditions the Board of Governors will consider any appropriate advice received from the Universities and Colleges Employers Association (UCEA).

Applying for this post

Should you now decide to submit an application for this position you are asked to kindly complete and return an application form. This is available either in electronic format (downloadable from our website) or as a hard copy.

Please note that CVs will only be accepted in support of a fully completed application form.

Completed application forms and any accompanying information should be returned via e-mail to jobs@staffs.ac.uk or posted to Personnel Services, Staffordshire University, PO Box 662, College Road, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 2XP.

If you wish to deliver the form by hand Personnel Services is located on the ground floor of the Cadman Building, College Road, Stoke-on-Trent. Office opening hours are 9.00am – 5.00pm Monday to Thursday, and 9.00am - 4.30pm on Friday.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CLOSING DATE FOR COMPLETED APPLICATIONS IS 9 JUNE 2010

Procedure following Receipt of Applications

Applicants are asked to provide us with an e-mail address where possible, as this is our preferred method of communication. All correspondence relating to this job application will be marked 'Private and Confidential'.

Where an e-mail address is provided, we will send applicants an acknowledgement of the application form as soon as possible following receipt; employees of Staffordshire University should note that this will be the internal e-mail address.

All applicants are asked to note that unless otherwise indicated, interviews will normally be held within one month of the closing date. Short listed candidates will be contacted to attend for interview as appropriate. Candidates who are not shortlisted for interview will be informed via e-mail. In the absence of an e-mail address, we regret that in the interest of economy we are unable to write to applicants. If you have not received an invitation for interview or any further communication within two months of the closing date specified, you are asked to assume your application is unsuccessful on this occasion.

The University wishes to thank all applicants for their interest in the Institution and the post advertised and for the time and trouble taken to complete the information for their application.

If you require a copy of the vacancy information in large print please contact us

Appointment to the University

The University is an independent Statutory Higher Education Corporation. As such the Board of Governors of the University is the employer, and is responsible for determining the employment policy, pay and conditions of service of all its employees.

The agreed terms and conditions for all staff are set out in the University's terms and conditions of service. In addition your attention is drawn to the following general points:

Medical Clearance

The appointment is subject to satisfactory medical screening, which normally consists of completion of a confidential questionnaire.

Eligibility to Live and Work in the UK

In line with the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006, documentation is required to confirm that employees are eligible to live and work in the UK. Any offer of employment is subject to this documentation being provided.

CRB Clearance

Where indicated in the job description an offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory response to a check of criminal records.

Qualifications

New employees will be required to produce evidence of qualifications which are deemed essential for the post, as set out in the job description.

Pension Contributions

All members of staff are eligible to contribute to the relevant occupational Pension Scheme which is either the Local Government Pension Scheme or Teachers Pension Scheme, both of which are final salary schemes. Staffordshire University as the employer also contributes to each scheme.

Payment of Salary

Salary is payable monthly in arrears, normally on the last Wednesday of each month. Payment is made by direct credit to a recognised bank or building society account. All new employees should ensure that the relevant details for credit transfer are completed on the standard form issued on appointment.

Annual Leave

Individuals are entitled to the following leave entitlements based on the grade of the post: -

Grade	Number of Days Worked per Week*		
	4	5	6
One	24	29	35
Two	24	29	35
Three	24	29	35
Four	26	32	41
Five	26	32	41
Six	26	32	41
Seven	30	37	45
Eight	30	37	45
Nine	30	37	45
Ten	30	37	45
Eleven	30	37	45
Twelve	30	37	45
Thirteen	30	37	45
Fourteen	30	37	45

* This refers to those members of staff who work full time hours but on a standard 5 day working cycle or those operating a shift pattern over 4 or 6 working days. This does not refer to staff on fractional contracts.

In addition there are 11 Bank, Extra Statutory and Discretionary Holidays as follows:

Good Friday
Easter Monday
May Day
Spring Bank Holiday Monday
Late Summer Bank Holiday Monday
Christmas Day to New Year's Day (inclusive)

Sickness Pay

An employee absent from duty due to illness will be entitled to receive paid sickness leave, as set out in the University's terms and conditions of service.

Trade Union Membership

The University believes that the interests of both the employer and employee are best served by individuals joining a recognised Trade Union. The Board of Governors of the University has recognised the following Trade Unions to operate within the university - UCU and UNISON.