Research Fellow in Public Policy and Value – Research and Knowledge Exchange Service – Grade H

Job Description

Purpose

To develop the public policy and value research and dissemination agenda within an integrated research cluster set up by UCLan at its Westlakes Campus and to contribute to the realisation of the Charitable Objects of Westlakes Research Limited.

The post holder will work as a member of a multidisciplinary research team embedded in national and international networks and the community and polity of West Cumberland. They will engage with leading edge scholarship and professional practitioners taking responsibility for the provision of high-quality research and applied, impact and outcome-orientated scholarly activity.

The postholder will develop and maintain external collaborations and contracts and publish high impact, peer reviewed papers independently and in collaboration with others.

The postholder will be required to travel to Preston and elsewhere to undertake research and disseminate the results of activities.

The post is funded by Westlakes Research Limited and will contribute to the delivery of Westlakes Research Limited's Charitable Objects as defined in the company's business plan.

Duties

1. To contribute to existing research projects, develop new projects in collaboration with the research group and to develop their own programme of research relevant to the values and ethos of the thematic areas.
2. To contribute and lead on the management of existing and future research/evaluation projects including the writing of research proposals/grant applications for external funding; writing documentation for ethics application; undertaking systematic literature reviews; performance and monitoring of projects, data analysis and preparation of detailed research/evaluation reports.
3. To work towards the achievement of the Charitable Objects of Westlakes Research Limited in the field of public value governance.
4. To disseminate outputs from research/evaluation projects through conferences. Seminars, courses and publications in high quality per reviewed journals.
5. To contribute to and then lead the development of collaborative research/evaluation grant proposals.
6. To provide teaching support / presentations to undergraduate / postgraduate sessions, where relevant to research skills and interests.
7. To attract, support and contribute to the supervision of novice researchers and postgraduate research students (Masters and PhD Students).

8. To support existing links and foster new links with relevant external agencies and organisations and to help sustain and develop the work of the research group through research activities.
9. To contribute to the development of interdisciplinary research and scholarship across the School.
10. To make a contribution to knowledge and understanding in the field of public policy and value and translate this into research activity.
11. With regards to the nature of your role and its impact upon our students, make an active contribution to and support the improvement of the student experience.
12. To update specialist knowledge and understanding and translate this into research activity.
13. To support on-going activities of the research group through contributing to planning seminars, conferences and other external-facing activities.
14. Adhere to appropriate ethical and research governance standards for research and protect confidentiality throughout this work.
15. To engage in appropriate knowledge transfer activities.
16. Any other activities in line with the requirements of the role as determined by the Line Manager / Dean of School.

Person Specification

Knowledge, Skills, and Behaviours (Essential)

- Substantial experience of research in an appropriate setting demonstrated by a record of involvement in and responsibility for research management and related activities on a number of research/evaluation-based projects (Application/Interview).
- Experience of utilising qualitative and quantitative methodologies and a range of different research methods (Application/Interview).
- Record of academic peer reviewed publications/research reports (Application/Interview).
- Evidence of excellent organisation skills with proven ability to prioritise and meet deadlines with the framework of an agreed programme (Application/Interview).
- PhD in a discipline relevant to the post (Application).
- Excellent verbal communication skills and excellent IT and academic writing skills (Application/Interview).
- Ability to contribute to, develop, and lead the planning, co-ordinating and implementing of research skills (Application/Interview).
- Strong methodological skills evidenced by experience of qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis (Application/Interview).
- Ability to contribute to publications and reports through excellent academic research writing skills (Application/Interview).
- Ability to work alone and carry out a arrange of research tasks autonomously and also to work as part of a team (Application/Interview).

- Ability to work independently and flexibly to ensure agreed work targets are achieved (Application/Interview).
- Commitment to conducting high quality research within the thematic areas (Application/Interview).
- An understanding of and demonstrable commitment to the University's Values of Achieving Together, Being Proud, Creating Opportunity and Supporting All, as a framework for decisions, actions and behaviours (Application/Interview).

Knowledge, Skills, and Behaviours (Desirable)

- Experience of contributing to writing research grant proposals (Application/Interview).
- Sound skills in using Word, PowerPoint, Excel (Application/Interview).
- Ability to coach, mentor and support colleagues in developing research techniques (Application/Interview).
- Experience of using qualitative and/or quantitative software analysis computer programmes (e.g., Atlas.ti, NVivo, SPSS) (Application/Interview).
- Track record of publications and experience of presenting research at conferences (Application/Interview).
- Ability to develop new concepts and ideas to extend intellectual understanding (Application/Interview).