

Regional Dean for the Middle East

Opportunity for internal candidates only.

The Regional Dean for the Middle East will join a new team of regional Deans who will work with the Pro Vice-Chancellor International, and the International Office, to deliver the international ambitions of our new University strategy: *Cardiff University: our future, together*.

Initially there will be five Regional Deans: for Africa, the Americas, China, India, and the Middle East, with additional opportunities likely to emerge in the future. You will be supported by and work in partnership with staff within the International Office and with a wide range of academic colleagues across the institution.

Our Deans will work right across the international portfolio, developing mutually-beneficial education and research partnerships, staff and student mobility opportunities, civic mission activities and exploring ways to improve and extend our reputation and reach within the region. You will work with a wide range of partner institutions, developing close working relationships within key countries. In Cardiff, you will act as a champion and ambassador for the region and the University's links and activities within it. You will host inward delegations and visits from the region.

You will have the ability to develop a deep knowledge of the region. You will demonstrate high-level leadership and motivation skills, with an inclusive and engaging team-building ethos, and the ability to positively communicate with and influence a diverse group of stakeholders. You will have experience in the development and implementation of strategy and policy, with knowledge and appreciation of the broader higher education and research landscape beyond your own academic area, and the ability to develop an understanding of good academic governance. You will have the ability to work with the three Colleges and Professional Services across the whole remit of the university including education, research and civic mission.

The post carries a funding commitment sufficient to buy out the time required for the role from the post-holder's home School. The roles will be 0.5FTE and fixed term for three years, with the possibility of normally one further term of 3 years. The role holder will receive an annual one-off, non-pensionable allowance of £3,750. The post reports to the Pro Vice-Chancellor International.

Responsibilities

- Work with the PVC-International, Regional Deans and the International Office to implement the University's international strategy, Global Cardiff.
- Formulate a comprehensive regional engagement strategy that covers the breadth of university international activities, with objectives and action plans to build on current engagement.
- Develop expertise and extend our engagement within the region across Cardiff's international activities, to advance:
 - global opportunities presented through Horizon Europe, Turing, Taith, the British Council and others;
 - international research collaboration, including transnational research funding opportunities, transnational research programmes, and joint research facilities and institutes involving international collaboration (in collaboration the Research Deans);
 - the outward and inward mobility of students;

- collaborative educational provision including transnational partnerships and global education opportunities (in collaboration with the Education Deans and the Head of Transnational Education).
- In collaboration with the relevant Regional Manager of the International Office and the Head of International Recruitment support the identification and communication of opportunities that strengthen international student recruitment.
- Participate in the University's existing international associations and seek new opportunities. Represent the University in regional special interest groups.
- Develop and deliver equitable and reciprocal partnerships with universities and research institutes within the region, articulating a clear strategic case for new partnerships and the benefits to both partners over a period of time.
- Oversee and review our current regional partnerships, ensuring that our links are optimised for both parties and add value to the University (working in collaboration with the Head of International Partnerships).
- Working with the Development and Alumni Relations team, engage with regional alumni and their networks and participate in regional academic association.
- Contribute to the University's commitment to sustainability.
- Work strategically with the Welsh Government UK Government, Universities Wales, British Council, NGOs, and other stakeholders to promote the university's range of activities in the region and to secure support for new developments.
- Representing the university in an official capacity and deputise for the Pro Vice-Chancellor International internally and externally, as and when required.

The Regional Deans will be expected to travel overseas as necessary in the fulfilment of the requirements of the role, as directed and agreed by the Pro Vice-Chancellor International, and in line with the University's Travel and Expenses policy and sustainability ambitions.

Key Competencies, Capabilities and Experience

- In-depth knowledge of, and interest in, the global higher education, mobility and research landscape in the region, and a passion to champion the region across the institution.
- A strong academic track record in teaching and research/scholarship, including experience in coordinating and having management oversight of academic activities.
- Demonstrable leadership skills, including the ability to think strategically, engender a shared vision and implement change.
- A proven track record of building effective and productive internal and external working relationships and teams.
- Demonstrable experience in the development and delivery of international activities, and experience of working in and with global institutions.
- A sound understanding of higher education and the contemporary issues affecting learning, teaching and research in Wales, the UK and internationally.

Attributes and Skills

- Strong interpersonal and team leadership skills with the ability to inspire and motivate others and develop effective working relationships both in the UK and overseas.

- A skilled problem solver, with the ability to display initiative, contribute new ideas and confidently evaluate current practices, structures, systems and processes and manage change.
- Ability to represent the University at a senior level, internally and externally.
- Inclusive and collegial management style, able to establish relationships across a wide spectrum of stakeholders including colleagues, students and a diverse range of external stakeholders.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, with ability to create and communicate a clear vision and inspire in others a sense of direction and purpose.
- Good negotiating skills, flexibility and open mindedness with inter-cultural sensitivity and understanding.
- Sustained professional credibility by modelling high standards of academic and professional expertise.
- Ability to work within complex settings with ambiguity, and to manage competing priorities and multiple issues.
- A sound understanding of higher education and issues affecting learning, teaching and research in key regions globally.
- A good working knowledge of the University's academic planning processes, governance, policy and operations and their bearing on international activities.