

Dean for Student Success

The Dean for Student Success will be responsible and accountable to the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Education and Student Experience (ESE), and work with them on strategic delivery relating to successful student outcomes for all learners across all the University's education provision. This role will be part of the ESE Senior Leadership Team and working to deliver the University's strategy and University success measures for education and student experience.

Main Duties

- Provide senior academic leadership for 'student success for all', aligning institutional priorities, aligned with the widening participation agenda, with student-focused strategies to ensure successful outcomes for all learners, including transition, academic progression, award, retention and employability.
- Work collaboratively with College Education Deans, the Dean for PGR and the other key stakeholders to enhance student success by developing and implementing student transition, success and support strategies to advance Cardiff graduate attributes and with those, student outcomes, whilst fostering a student-centric culture that prioritises inclusivity, belonging, and equity and meets the needs of a diverse student body.
- Act as the main education lead for inclusivity and equality and diversity, working with others to promote and embed good practice across the education provision.

Responsibilities

1. Strategic oversight of the education portfolio as it relates to student success for all learners, across the University;
2. Work with data / evidence to monitor and address differentials in student satisfaction, outcomes and employability and ensure success for all.
3. Develop and implement student transition, success and support strategies to advance Cardiff graduate attributes and with those, student outcomes, whilst fostering a student-centric culture that prioritises inclusivity, belonging, and equity;
4. Contribute to institutional level activities, including providing academic leadership on cross-university projects and themes such as, working with the student wellbeing teams and others in the introduction of a new model for personalised support and ensuring effective transitions through the student learning journey, particularly relating to students from widening participation backgrounds.
5. Work with the Dean for Portfolio, Curriculum and Innovation, and other key institutional roles to promote inclusion, equality and diversity, and ensure the institutional inclusivity framework for education is embedded across all programmes, processes and support services.

6. Co-lead with the Dean for Portfolio, Curriculum and Innovation on a University approach to student employability, collaborating with the College Deans and other key roles on curricular and extra-curricular developments as set out by University Strategy.
7. Work in partnership with the Cardiff University Students' Union and sabbatical team, and the wider student body, to ensure effective co-creation of policies, procedures and practice to meet the needs of a diverse study body and ensure the student voice is heard, listened to and acted upon.
8. Work with the Provost and key roles in EDI to ensure alignment of education and student experience activities to institutional priorities for equality and diversity;
9. Work in partnership with key professional service teams including Student Life, Student Health and Wellbeing, Student Futures, and the Learning and Teaching Academy
10. Maintain contemporaneous awareness of developments in the external environment that might impact on the area of Student Success for the institution;
11. Ensure key themes of the University strategy (e.g. employability, inclusivity, sustainability) are embedded across the portfolio of programmes and curricula across the institution Establish and maintain good working relations with external organisations including Medr, Universities Wales and Advance HE;
12. Represent the Pro Vice-Chancellor ESE or University and be an active and inclusive member of the Senior Leadership Team for Education, and deliver and contribute to specific projects, groups and other University processes (e.g. IPP) as requested by the PVC, ESE and in line with the ESE and University priorities.

Key Competencies, Capabilities and Experience

- Strong academic track record in leading significant and impactful change in learning, teaching and enhancing the student experience
- Awareness and understanding of pedagogical research and practice, as relates to inclusivity, student journey and learner outcomes
- Proven track record of working in partnership with students to improve student outcomes, and reduce inequalities in an education setting
- Demonstrable experience of academic leadership with the ability to think strategically and engender a shared vision amongst academic and PS colleagues
- A proven track record of building effective and productive internal and external working relationships
- Involvement with relevant professional communities linked to student outcomes, inclusive practice and student wellbeing and support
- A good understanding of developments within learning and teaching and the student experience within Higher Education, across a range of subject disciplines

- To have gained Senior Fellowship of Advance HE or willingness to achieve this in the next 3 years.

Attributes and Skills

- Proven capabilities as a team leader with the ability to inspire and motivate others
- Good negotiating skills, a self-starter with initiative, flexibility, open-mindedness and can-do attitude
- Reflective, inclusive and collegial management style able to establish relationships across a wide spectrum of stakeholders including colleagues, students and external groups
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, networking and team building

This role will be 0.8FTE and fixed term for three years. The role holder will receive an annual one-off non-pensionable allowance of £6,000.