Dean for Academic Quality

The Dean for Academic Quality will be responsible and accountable to the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Education and Student Experience (ESE), and work with them to provide the strategic academic leadership for quality and academic standards across all the University's provision. This role will be part of the ESE Senior Leadership Team and work to deliver the University's strategy and success measures for education and student experience.

Main Duties

- Provide senior academic leadership for driving and upholding the highest academic standards of teaching, learning and assessment for undergraduate and postgraduate programmes (taught and research), for all modes of delivery including non-accredited provision, the Flexible and Lifelong Learning portfolio and Transnational Education across the University

- Work collaboratively with the College Education Deans, the Dean for PGR and other key stakeholders, including professional services functions, to oversee implementation and delivery of the University Education and Student Experience strategy as it relates to academic quality. This includes creating a portfolio of new educational offerings including flexible, modularised, lifelong learning and high-quality, reciprocal, transnational education initiatives and developing a dynamic academic portfolio, underpinned by future-focused delivery models and pedagogies.

- Working with the key stakeholders to support programme teams in their engagement with, and development of, a high-quality and inclusive academic culture and good practice in programme development, validation, review and enhancement, and the on-going embedding of these practices throughout the academic year in keeping with the University's commitment to supporting student successful outcomes, inclusivity and sustainability. Ensure that the University's academic quality system meets regulatory requirements, can evidence that academic standards are appropriately set and maintained, maintains a high-quality academic experience, and supports the improvement of student outcomes and enhancement of the learning experience.

Responsibilities

1. Strategic oversight of academic regulations and policies, the development and effective implementation of agile and adaptable quality assurance system (as defined by regulations, policies, and processes across the University);

2. Ensure alignment with institutional, national, and international standards, including quality oversight of accredited and non-accredited provision set out by flexible lifelong learning, as well as new provision from any transnational education;

3. Work with College Education Deans to support academic schools to develop and deliver relevant education plans to ensure academic quality and ensure they are aligned to the institutional strategy, and delivery of the University's Success Measures;

4. 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;

5. Oversee the work of the University Academic Standards and Quality Committee (and its sub-committees) working closely with College, Schools and partnership work with relevant professional service teams to deliver high-quality educational provision and ensure that the standards of awards are appropriately set and maintained;

6. Be a high-profile champion for academic quality across the University, promoting academic development as it relates to quality and standards across the University, and working with professional service colleagues to deliver an effective support and service on quality assurance to the University

7. Lead the academic side of the University's compliance with external monitoring regulation and review (e.g. QAA, Medr);

8. Use an evidence- and risk-based approach for academic quality in assessing Schools, College and professional service action plans for improving where required;

9. Lead implementation of the University's assessment processes and frameworks, ensuring they promote high academic standards and maintain the quality of the Cardiff University degree;

10. Work with the Academic Registrar, Head of Education Governance, Director of the Learning and Teaching Academy and others on development of academic quality and standards within programme approval and monitoring, ensuring fit for purpose, agile and responsive to University needs;

11. Work with colleagues across the University to ensure that quality assurance procedures lead to quality enhancement of the student experience, and ensuring that the student voice and the needs of our students sit at the centre of our quality framework;

12. Remain up-to-date with external developments in quality assurance and enhancement, developing external networks;

13. 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, and with equivalent colleagues in Universities Wales and other quality networks;

14. Represent the Pro Vice-Chancellor ESE or University, 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 (such as 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

- Experience of meeting national and/or professional, statutory or regulatory quality assurance standards, and enhancement procedures (e.g. quality reviews, audits or accreditations)

- Demonstrable experience of academic leadership with the ability to think strategically and engender a shared vision amongst academic and PS colleagues

- Proven track record of working in partnership with students to lead programme and curriculum enhancements, and delivering on improving student outcomes and experience

- A good understanding of national quality assurance and enhancement debates in UK higher education

- 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

- Experience of liaising with external or professional communities with respect to learning, teaching quality

- 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, 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 0.6FTE and fixed term for three years. The role holder will receive an annual one off non-pensionable allowance of £4500.