

Senior Researcher – Industrial Policy Research Centre

Job Ref: REQ210235

As part of the University's ongoing commitment to redeployment, please note that this vacancy may be withdrawn at any stage of the recruitment process if a suitable redeployee is identified.

Summary

The Industrial Policy and Insight Centre is a joint initiative between Loughborough University and the Manufacturing Technology Centre (MTC) and brings together academics, business and government departments to generate thought-leadership papers, insight and industrial policy positioning reports. The Centre tackles a range of issues to ensure the well-being and growth of Midlands manufacturing, including:

- Business model transformation
- Cultural change within the manufacturing environment
- Economic impact of manufacturing
- Energy supply, including renewables
- Financing and funding model transformation
- Market aggregation
- Supply chain development
- Technology drivers.

The Centre focuses on activities supporting the Midlands' manufacturing sector and will review both the national and international landscapes to help ensure that the region is recognised as synonymous with world-class manufacturing. The Centre's other activities includes a public lecture programme, an annual manufacturing leaders' summit and a National Manufacturing Summit.

This post holder will take an important role within the Centre. In the function, the post holder will be expected to coordinate the delivery of high-quality research and innovation actions across multi-disciplinary teams within the University and MTC and with external partners from both industry and academia. Strong leadership, personal drive and management skills are required with a focused drive for results. This will involve setting clear targets for outputs and value-added engagement activities and management and contribution to existing research activity of the centre and participating in sourcing new opportunities for funding, dissemination and exploitation. The post holder will be responsible for ensuring that their projects and activities form and contribute to the wider research programme and activities that need to be implemented in an integrated manner, which will lead to high level outputs. It is crucial that the post holder possesses the necessary wide-ranging experience and interpersonal skills required to integrate ideas from the broad research activity of the centre.

The position is a fixed term appointment for 2 years ending no later than 31 January 2023.

Job Description

Job Grade: Specialist and Supporting Academic Grade 7

Job Purpose

To support and promote the Centre and its associated activities through Industrial Policy research.

Job Duties

The role will include (but not be limited to):

- To undertake innovative research, drafting papers on various Industrial Policy related topics, providing briefings on policy, including both new and existing government initiatives.
- To provide the data and material to support with influencing and creating policy, through a broad understanding and knowledge of subject area
- To be able to communicate and build relationships with existing and new stakeholders, e.g. other universities, catapult centres, government departments, research trade organisations and local enterprise entities
- To support the Director with presentations, lectures, conferences etc., and also be able to deliver these activities

Key Deliverables

The post holder will be expected to contribute to:

- The development of the Centre
- The application of research to produce regular 'white' papers, which are both accessible and thought provoking articles, journals and other collaborative work
- Providing agendas that will support conferences, seminars and other events
- Communications plans including regular e-newsletters and other social media platforms
- Identifying sponsorship and other funding opportunities
- Building a network across academia, government, and industry

Points To Note

The purpose of this job description is to indicate the general level of duties and responsibility of the post. The detailed duties may vary from time to time without changing the general character or level of responsibility entailed.

Special Conditions

All staff have a statutory responsibility to take reasonable care of themselves, others and the environment and to prevent harm by their acts or omissions. All staff are therefore required to adhere to the University's Health, Safety and Environmental Policy & Procedures.

All staff should hold a duty and commitment to observing the University's Equality & Diversity policy and procedures at all times. Duties must be carried out in accordance with relevant Equality & Diversity legislation and University policies/procedures.

Successful completion of probation will be dependent on attendance at the University's mandatory courses which include Respecting Diversity and, where appropriate, Recruitment and Selection.

Organisational Responsibility

Reports to the Director, Industrial Policy Research Centre, Manufacturing Technology Centre / Loughborough University.

Person Specification

Your application will be reviewed against the essential and desirable criteria listed below. Applicants are strongly advised to explicitly state and evidence how they meet each of the essential (and desirable) criteria in their application. Stages of assessment are as follows:

- 1 – Application
- 2 – Test/Assessment Centre/Presentation
- 3 – Interview

Essential Criteria

Area	Criteria	Stage	
Experience	Able to undertake research activity – gathering empirical data, data analysis and providing both full reports and summary overviews	1,3	
	Excellent communication skills (with both technical and non-technical audiences)	1,3	
	Self-motivated with the ability to meet deadlines and work autonomously	1,3	
	Ability to work independently and as part of a team	1,3	
	Excellent interpersonal and organisational skills	1,3	
	Knowledge of the manufacturing sector	1,3	
	Experience of writing papers and providing briefs on a broad range of subjects	1,3	
	Experience of working in a team	1,3	
	Experience of working to deadlines	1,3	
	Experience of presentations, confidence in contributing to discussions	1, 3	
	Experience of leading projects	1, 3	
	Skills and abilities	Undergraduate degree or equivalent experience in quantitative research techniques	1,3
Knowledge of Industrial Strategy, Industry 4.0 and similar programmes		1,3	
Awareness of manufacturing issues; supply chains, skills, productivity, emerging technologies, etc.		1,3	
The ability to translate complex policies to various audiences		1,3	
Excellent written and oral and presentation skills		1,3	
Self-motivated with the ability to meet deadlines and work on a number of projects in parallel		1,3	
Ability to work independently and as part of a team		1,3	
A general interest in policy, particularly in the fields of industry and trade		1,3	
Training	A willingness to undertake further training as appropriate and to adopt new procedures as and when required	3	
Qualifications	Master's degree in relevant subject or equivalent experience, or other relevant Engineering discipline relevant to the role or equivalent experience	1	

Other	Evidence a good working knowledge of equal opportunities and understanding of diversity in the workplace	1,3
	Commitment to observing the University's Equal Opportunities policy at all times	3
	Willingness to undertake undergraduate or postgraduate related teaching support	3

Desirable Criteria

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Civil service experience	1,3
	Local government officer experience	1,3
	In-house policy experience	1,3
	Ability to transfer knowledge to others, within and external to the team	1,3
Skills and abilities	Experience of working in industry, especially Midlands based	1,3
	Project management	1,3
	Leading research projects	1,3
	Experience in external government engagement	1,3
Qualifications	Master's degree in relevant subject or equivalent experience	1
Other	Licence to drive in the UK	1

Conditions of Service

The position is FULL TIME and FIXED TERM. Salary will be on Specialist and Supporting Academic Grade 7, £41,526 - £49,533 per annum, at a starting salary to be confirmed on offer of appointment. The appointment will be subject to the University's normal Terms and Conditions of Employment for Academic and Related staff/Operational and Administrative staff, details of which can be found [here](#).

The University is committed to enabling staff to maintain a healthy work-home balance and has a number of family-friendly policies which are available at <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/a-z/family-leave-policy-and-procedure---page.html>.

We also offer an on-campus nursery with subsidised places, subsidised places at local holiday clubs and a childcare voucher scheme (further details are available at: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/a-z/childcare-information---page.html>)

In addition, the University is supportive, wherever possible, of flexible working arrangements. We also strive to create a culture that supports equality and celebrates diversity throughout the campus. The University holds a Bronze Athena SWAN award which recognises the importance of support for women at all stages of their academic career. For further information on Athena SWAN see <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/athena-swan/>

Applications

The closing date for receipt of applications is 9 May 2021. Interviews will be expected to be held w/c 17 May 2021.