

Research Associate in *Creative Technologies – CoSTAR Foresight Lab*

Job Ref: REQ240769

As part of the University's ongoing commitment to redeployment, please note that this vacancy may be withdrawn at any stage of the recruitment process if a suitable redeployee is identified.

Project Description

Convergent Screen Technologies and Performance in Realtime (CoSTAR) is a new network infrastructure designed to drive innovation in emerging technologies across screen and performance. Supported by UK Research and Innovation through the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the CoSTAR network is formed of five labs based across the UK and bringing together a diverse range of partners across academia and the creative industries.

CRAIC (the Creative Research and Innovation Centre) at Loughborough University London leads on the Policy Insight and Foresight function for the CoSTAR Foresight Lab. Alongside the other labs, the CoSTAR Foresight Lab will deliver a robust programme to address the acknowledged gaps in understanding how creative businesses are deploying these advanced creative media technologies, and the impacts of these deployments. Led by Goldsmiths, in collaboration with Edinburgh and Loughborough Universities and the BFI, the Foresight Lab will leverage an unrivalled team and network, comprising world-leading players in data and sector research.

Job Description

Job Grade: Specialist and Supporting Academic Research Grade 6

The Research Associate will work with CRAIC at Loughborough University London, as well as team members and partners of the CoSTAR Foresight Lab, to lead and deliver a robust programme of research focused on the adoption of convergent technologies and their impact on the screen and performance sectors. The post holder will work closely with the Foresight Lab's policy team to deliver reports and events relating, but not limited to, international markets, skills and workforce, and creative technologies of the future.

Job Purpose

- **Research development and delivery**
 - To lead the development of new research relevant to the thematic areas of the Foresight Lab, including convergent technology adoption and its impact on skills, EDI, international markets etc.
 - To conduct research across the Foresight Lab, including publication of papers and participation in conferences.
- **Collaboration**
 - To collate data and information, taking an agile approach to research that responds to emerging trends and analysis.
 - To work closely with colleagues and partners within the Foresight Lab and wider CoSTAR network.

Job Duties

- To collate national, international and regional research on creative technologies R&D, innovation and adoption being undertaken across the CoSTAR network
- To develop a framework through which to map opportunities, challenges, strengths and weaknesses in creative technologies in the UK
- To be responsible for leading a programme of work focusing on the adoption of advanced technologies in live performance and its implications for policy.
- To Identify critical future trend areas and possible futures, understanding where the UK can lead in this space. Focus on areas including, but not limited to, workforce and skills, access, inclusion, and the adoption of convergent technologies.
- To develop a programme of research-led events and initiatives to drive engagement and share findings, both in the UK and internationally as appropriate

In addition:

- Write up regular progress reports and present outcomes to all Investigators and Collaborators.
- To inform the project team of progress and make recommendations for next steps.
- Travel to attend meetings and make presentations both within the project partners' working group and to external stakeholders.
- To write research papers suitable for publication in high quality academic journals.
- To attend and contribute to conferences.
- To support the project team by enhancing relationships with existing collaborators and by assisting the establishment of relationships with new collaborators.
- To contribute to project promotion and public engagement events.
- Contribute ideas for new research and enterprise directions.
- Maintain confidentiality at all times and ensure that intellectual property (IPR) agreements are not violated.
- Undertake other duties as may be reasonably requested and commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.

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 Equity & Diversity policy and procedures at all times. Duties must be carried out in accordance with relevant Equity & 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 of Policy for the Foresight Lab

Person Specification

Your application will be reviewed with respect to meeting the essential and desirable criteria listed below. 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	Background in Creative Industries or Creative Technologies	1, 3
	Research on creative technologies	1, 3
	Authoring or co-authoring original work for academic journal papers, conference papers or technical reports	1, 3
Skills and abilities	Collaborative research in creative industries or creative technologies	1
	Excellent written and oral communication skills	1, 2
	Self-motivated with ability to meet deadlines	1, 2, 3
	Excellent interpersonal, and organisational skills	1, 2, 3
	Ability to write project reports and make technical presentations to industrial and academic research groups	2, 3
	Knowledge of relevant Health & Safety issues	1
Training	Demonstrate evidence of having undertaken further training	1, 3
Qualifications	PhD (or near completion)	1, 3
Other	Commitment to observing the University's Equal Opportunities policy at all times.	1, 3

Desirable Criteria

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Work with creative businesses	1, 3
	Developing proposals for funding from external agencies	3
	Working in a high-quality academic research environment	1
Skills and abilities	Authoring original work, in the highest quality refereed academic journals	1, 3
	A strong publication track record	1, 3
	A strong track record of presentation at seminars or conferences	1, 3
Qualifications	PhD (or near completion)	1
Other	Travel / Able to travel Independently / Working patterns	1, 3

Conditions of Service

The position is full-time and fixed term from 1 November 2024 to 31 July 2026. Salary will be Specialist Support Academic Research Grade 6 - £33,966 - £44,263 per annum plus London Weighting £3,518 per annum, with a starting salary to be confirmed on the offer of appointment.

The appointment will be subject to the University's Terms and Conditions of Employment for STAFF GRADES 1-5/STAFF GRADES 6 AND ABOVE, 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 can be found [here](#).

The University offers a wide range of employee benefits which can be found [here](#).

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 equity 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/>