

Professor and Academic Director, UK SCALE Centre

Job Ref: REQ260634

Successful candidates will have a sustained and continuing record of excellence which has contributed to the furtherance of knowledge in their discipline and is recognised in a well-established and high profile international reputation. Evidence of significant academic leadership and a PhD or equivalent research experience are also essential.

School/Department summary:

Loughborough University is one of the UK's leading research-intensive institutions and home to the UK Supply Chain and Logistics Excellence (UK SCALE) Centre, established through a strategic partnership with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Centre for Transportation and Logistics (MIT CTL) as part of the world-leading MIT Global SCALE Network. UK SCALE is the UK's national convener for supply chain progress and transformation, bringing together academics, industry leaders and policymakers to address challenges relating to resilience, productivity and sustainability through research, education and engagement. Supported by the internationally recognised and triple-accredited (AACSB, EQUIS and AMBA) Loughborough Business School, UK SCALE offers a unique opportunity to help shape the future of supply chain research, capability and innovation in the UK and beyond.

About the Opportunity

UK SCALE Centre is entering an exciting new phase of development. Having successfully established itself as the UK's centre within the MIT Global SCALE Network, the focus is now on scaling the Centre's national and international impact through deeper research collaboration, stronger industry engagement and the continued development of the UK's supply chain research community.

A key strategic opportunity for the Centre is the development of the Supply Chain Academic Network (SCAN), a UK-wide network being co-created by the UK supply chain research community. Convened by UK SCALE Centre in a neutral capacity, SCAN aims to strengthen collaboration across disciplines, institutions and sectors, creating a more connected, visible and impactful supply chain research ecosystem that unlocks new opportunities for collaboration, capability development and challenge-led research. A significant part of this vision is the development of new models for industry-funded collaborative research, creating stronger pathways between real-world challenges and academic innovation.

As Academic Director, you will have a rare opportunity to help shape the future direction of the UK SCALE Centre, realise the vision for the Supply Chain Academic Network (SCAN) as a nationally recognised platform for collaboration, and influence the wider UK supply chain research landscape. Working with colleagues across academia, industry and government, you will play a leading role in strengthening research communities, fostering collaboration and supporting the development of ambitious programmes that deliver meaningful academic, industrial and societal impact.

This is a highly visible leadership opportunity for an academic leader with the credibility, energy and vision to build new communities, foster collaboration and create momentum around ambitious ideas. We are seeking someone who can bring people together around shared challenges, translate ideas into action, and help create the conditions for a stronger, more connected and more impactful UK supply chain research ecosystem.

Job Description

Job Family and Grade: Research, Teaching and Enterprise Grade 9

Job Purpose

- To work with other senior academic staff to ensure that the ambitions set out in the University's Strategy, Creating Better Futures. Together are achieved.
- To lead the development and implementation of research, teaching and enterprise strategy to maintain vitality in the activities of the Loughborough Business School generally and in the academic area of Management Science and Operations.
- To engage personally with those activities, adding to the University's international reputation.
- To undertake the role of Academic Director of the UK Supply Chain and Logistics Excellence (UK SCALE) Centre, providing strategic leadership for the Centre's academic vision, collaborative research agenda and contribution to the UK's supply chain research community.
- To provide leadership for the development of the Supply Chain Academic Network (SCAN), supporting the growth of a nationally connected, internationally recognised and inclusive supply chain research ecosystem.
- To strengthen collaboration across academia, industry and government, enabling challenge-led, collaborative and industry-funded research that delivers academic excellence, societal impact and long-term collaborative research capability.
- To act as a key academic ambassador for UK SCALE Centre, strengthening engagement with the MIT Global SCALE Network and enhancing the Centre's national and international influence.

Job Duties

Academic Leadership

- To provide academic leadership for the activities of the School specifically in Management Science and Operations as well as more generally across the School and the University.
- To pursue excellence in research, teaching and enterprise and to inspire others to do the same.
- To play a lead role in the development and communication of the strategic vision for Management Science and Operations .
- To lead and participate in internal and external networks to foster collaboration and to promote, the School and the University, nationally and internationally
- To monitor the external environment and ensure that the School and University capitalise on emerging opportunities and to review the scope of current academic provision.
- To provide academic leadership for the UK SCALE Centre, contributing to the development and delivery of its academic vision and strategic priorities.
- To provide leadership for the development of the Supply Chain Academic Network (SCAN), supporting the growth of a nationally connected, internationally recognised and inclusive supply chain research ecosystem.
- To act as a key academic liaison with the MIT Centre for Transportation and Logistics (MIT CTL) and wider MIT Global SCALE Network, strengthening opportunities for international collaboration and knowledge exchange.
- To promote collaboration across academia, industry and government, identifying strategic opportunities that strengthen the UK's supply chain research and innovation capability.

Research

- To pursue an 'internationally competitive' personal research programme consistent with the research priorities of the Loughborough Business School that increases the global visibility and reputation of the University.
- To secure external research funding.
- To supervise and manage research projects.
- To publish the outcomes of research in outlets of international standing.

- To attend and contribute to the organisation of major international conferences.
- To supervise postgraduate students at Masters and Doctoral levels.
- To initiate, lead and collaborate in research initiatives with colleagues both within the University and externally.
- To initiate, lead and collaborate in research initiatives with other HEIs and other relevant bodies.
- To develop and support challenge-led collaborative research that addresses strategically important supply chain challenges.
- To identify and enable opportunities for multi-institution and interdisciplinary research collaboration, including the development of externally funded research and innovation programmes.
- To develop and champion innovative models for industry-funded collaborative research that bring together academic expertise to address real-world challenges and create pathways to larger-scale research and innovation activity.
- To contribute to the development of a nationally connected research community, supporting capability building and research excellence across the supply chain discipline.

Teaching

- To lead colleagues in the School in delivering an exceptional learning environment for students.
- To teach and inspire undergraduate and postgraduate students, and to conduct associated assessments.
- To provide academic and pastoral support to undergraduate and postgraduate students.
- To promote the use of a range of methods and techniques in teaching, learning and assessment.
- To engage in the evaluation and development of modules for which you have responsibility, in terms of content, delivery and assessment.
- To be responsible for the design and content of specific areas of teaching and learning within the School's undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.
- To lead colleagues in the continuous review and development of the School's taught programmes and the curriculum.
- To contribute to postgraduate, doctoral and executive education activities aligned with the strategic priorities of the School and UK SCALE Centre.

Enterprise

- To initiate and lead engagement with business, public and voluntary organisations through knowledge exchange activities such as student projects and placements, research collaboration, consultancy and specialist training.
- To create social, cultural and economic impacts from academic, especially research, activity.
- To secure external funding in support of these activities.
- To seek opportunities for the commercialisation of research and the formation of social enterprises.
- To build and maintain strategic relationships with industry, government and other external stakeholders that support knowledge exchange, research collaboration and innovation.
- To contribute to the development of industry-informed and industry-funded collaborative research opportunities that generate academic, economic and societal impact.

Related Activities and Functions

- To appraise and advise staff on personal and career development plans.
- To work effectively with relevant administrative, technical and academic staff in the School and across the University.
- To carry out specific administrative roles and functions as may be reasonably required.
- To take part in and, on occasion, act as chair of one or more of the School's committees.
- To engage in training programmes in the University (e.g. through Staff Development) which are consistent with your needs and aspirations and those of the School.
- To undertake such other duties as may be reasonably requested and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.
- To contribute to the governance and strategic planning activities of UK SCALE Centre as required.

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 outlined in the document.

Organisational Responsibility

Reports to the Head of Management Science and Operations Academic Group

Direct Reports: N/A

Budget Responsibilities: N/A

Structure Chart: N/A.

The postholder will work closely with the UK SCALE Director and wider UK SCALE leadership team to provide academic leadership for the UK SCALE Centre and the Supply Chain Academic Network (SCAN) as part of the Centre's distributed leadership model.

Person Specification

Below you will find the general person specification for a Professor role at Loughborough University.

Your application will be assessed based on the essential and desirable criteria listed below.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to explicitly demonstrate how they meet each essential (and desirable) criteria at the application stage. The criteria that you need to demonstrate in your application will be listed as Stage 1 in the table below.

Stages of assessment are as follows:

- 1 – Criteria measured within the Application
- 2 – Criteria measured at Test/Assessment Centre/Presentation
- 3 - Criteria measured at Interview

Essential Criteria:

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Significant leadership experience gained within university, research, public sector or business settings which may include: • project and programme leadership • leading collaborative initiatives involving multiple stakeholders and institutions • managing professional staff (academic or otherwise) within a team. • managing budgets	1,3
	Evidence of research and/or academic activity in a subject/discipline consistent with the needs of the School.	1
	A sustained and continuing record of excellence which has contributed to the furtherance of knowledge in Management Science and Operations, Supply Chain Management, or a closely aligned discipline and is recognised by an established and high-profile international reputation in that area.	1,3
	Experience of leading and participating in projects in internationally recognised academic research including sustained experience at a senior level and a track record of developing collaborative research partnerships.	1
	Evidence of authoring a substantial body of original work, in the highest quality refereed academic journals as judged against international norms.	1

	Extended experience of successfully supervising the projects of taught and research students or company staff at equivalent levels.	1,3
	Experience of presenting research work at international scientific conferences.	1
	Experience of teaching and assessment at undergraduate and postgraduate level and of curriculum development.	1,3
	Experience of work in or developing productive collaborations with businesses, public sector organisations, government bodies or other external partners.	1
	Candidates from outside of academia must be able to demonstrate the ability to make the transition to becoming a top academic	1,2,3
	Experience designing, convening or leading collaborative research development activities (e.g. sandpits, workshops, challenge-led programmes) involving multiple stakeholders.	1,2,3
	Evidence of developing and sustaining academic networks, including the ability to identify, engage and convene researchers across institutions and disciplines.	1,3
Skills and abilities	Demonstrated ability to develop a major original research programme on your own initiative and to persuade others of its importance orally and on paper.	2,3
	Demonstrated ability to secure substantial research funding and/or enterprise funds from external / company sources on a regular basis	1,3
	Demonstrated ability to create social / cultural / economic impacts from professional activity.	2,3
	Ability to stimulate and inspire others as reflected in academic leadership and influence beyond own discipline/institution.	2,3
	Excellent communication and interpersonal skills which give you the ability to engage with students, colleagues, business and other agencies on a wide variety of matters.	1,2,3
	Experience of leading a team	2,3
	Outstanding convening and facilitation skills, with the ability to bring together academics, industry and policy stakeholders in collaborative and inclusive environments.	1,2,3
	Ability to develop, sustain and influence academic networks, including identifying, engaging and convening researchers across institutions and disciplines.	1,2,3
	Ability to engage with industry partners and translate real-world challenges into collaborative research opportunities.	1,2,3
Training	Commitment to and evidence of continuing professional development.	1,3
Qualifications	Relevant PhD or equivalent research experience.	1
Other	Demonstrate an ability to behave in a way that adheres to equitable and inclusive working practices, while respecting diversity of thought and supporting freedom of speech and expression.	1,3
	Fellow of the Higher Education Academy	1

Desirable Criteria: These are skills, experience and competencies that are additional extras that may be used to narrow the pool down if we receive a high volume of applications that meet the essential criteria.

Area	Criteria	Stage
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Experience	Experience at research group head or equivalent level including: • Strategic planning and delivery. • Promoting your organisation.	1,3
	Experience in commercial exploitation of products / services or formation of social enterprises.	1,3
	Experience contributing to national or international academic networks, centres or consortia.	1,3
	Evidence of interdisciplinary collaboration.	1,3
	Experience contributing to major collaborative initiatives involving multiple institutions, sectors or stakeholder groups.	1,3
	Experience working at the interface between academia and industry, including collaborative R&D, knowledge exchange or applied research.	1,3
Skills and abilities	A sound understanding of the structure of universities and issues facing the UK higher education sector, for example: • Research funding opportunities in UK HE. • The challenges faced in recruiting students to UK HE.	2,3 1
Qualifications	Appropriate professional status	1

Conditions of Service

The appointment will be subject to the [University's Terms and Conditions of Employment](#) relevant to the job grade for Academic Related staff.

Salary will be on a Research, Teaching and Enterprise, Grade 9, at a starting salary to be confirmed on offer of appointment. In exceptional circumstances the University may offer a market supplement of up to 10% of the maximum salary per annum.

Shared University Responsibilities

As a member of the Loughborough community, you are expected to:

- Take reasonable care of yourself, others and the environment, and to prevent harm by your acts or omissions. All staff are therefore required to adhere to the University's Health, Safety and Environmental Sustainability Policies & Procedures.
- Support and contribute to the University's commitment to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI), while carrying out all duties in a way that respects these principles and upholds the right to free expression. Further information about EDI at Loughborough and our strategic aims is available on our website

Our Purpose, Vision, and Values

Our purpose, Vision and Values underpin all that we do and shape how we work together at Loughborough.

We're proud to promote our values: **Adventurous, Collaborative, Creative, Authentic** and **Responsible**. Our people bring these values to life every day, and they are central to the positive and supportive culture that makes Loughborough unique.

If you join us, you'll be encouraged to bring these values to life in your own work and contribute to the positive, supportive culture that makes Loughborough unique.

Read more about our [vision and values](#).

Our Accreditations Loughborough Business School holds the prestigious "triple crown" of international accreditations through AACSB, EQUIS and AMBA, placing it amongst a small group of business schools worldwide recognised for excellence in teaching, research and engagement with business.



We 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 career.



We are proud to be a [Race Equality Charter Member](#). The Charter aims to improve the representation, progression and success of all minority ethnic staff and students within higher education and address issues of racism within higher education institutions (HEIs).



We are proud to be a Disability Confident Employer and have adopted a proactive approach to employing disabled people and to creating a more diverse workforce. We ensure that our recruitment processes are inclusive and accessible. We guarantee to offer an interview to all applicants who have declared a disability, provided that the essential criteria for the role are met. We proactively anticipate and provide reasonable adjustments and support existing employees who acquire a disability or long-term condition to thrive in the workplace.



We are a real living wage employer, and our Living Wage Employer Mark shows our commitment to paying our staff according to the cost of living.



We are proud supporters of the [City of Sanctuary movement](#) and delighted to be recognised as a University of Sanctuary. This national network brings together, university staff, lecturers, academics, and students, who together work to make Higher Education institutions places of safety, solidarity and empowerment for people seeking sanctuary.

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.