

Researcher Developer



ROLE DESCRIPTION

GRADE

Grade 6

LOCATION

Merchiston, Edinburgh

LINE MANAGER

Head of Researcher
Development

ROLE SUMMARY

This post will contribute to the enhancement of research and innovation activities through professional development in line with the university's strategic goals and with sector best practice in skills training for researchers. The post holder will focus on developing research students and researchers across the University to equip them with the capabilities appropriate for research and research-related careers within academia and beyond. The role will also involve supporting research supervisors to enhance their practice through development and the sharing of practice.

LINE MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR:

This role does not have any line management responsibilities currently.

MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- To work with colleagues to plan the professional development of researchers - both Postgraduate Research students and staff – to help build research capacity and develop generic skills capabilities for a variety of research and research-related careers within academia and beyond, helping to maintain our EU HR Excellence in Research award.
- To design, deliver, and evaluate development activities in both face-to-face and online settings; comprising induction for new researchers and continuing professional development for researchers including postgraduate research students, to cover themes such as writing for academic and wider publication, public engagement with research, achieving impact, dealing with the media, managing projects and teams, and facilitating research engagement with industry and the public sector.
- To work with colleagues to deliver the Postgraduate Certificate in Researcher Skills Development
- To author development materials, online or using traditional media as appropriate, to help provide comprehensive and effective support for researchers
- To develop appropriate means to enhance research supervision of postgraduate research students, in the context of both traditional and professional doctorates, through development, support, mentorship and the sharing of good practice; to similarly develop means to enhance research degree examination practice.
- To work with Schools and subject areas in designing and delivering tailored professional development in response to both forward looking strategic needs and particular current challenges identified by Schools
- To establish and maintain effective relationships with the communities and individuals who make key contributions to Researcher Development and to help build and maintain active, sustainable and positive working relationships internally with Schools, Professional Services and the Edinburgh Napier Students' Association and externally with relevant HEIs, professional associations, sector and other organisations and partners.
- To seek to build staff capacity and capability in delivering research degree programmes
- To provide reports, evaluation, data and other information for University committees and external agencies etc. and participate in designated Committees and working groups as appropriate.
- To contribute to institutional and strategic initiatives in researcher development and evaluation of such initiatives.
- To contribute to the creation and development of a research culture that values research excellence, research integrity, and the continuous development of high quality research.
- To remain abreast of developments in the field and the approaches to improving researcher development embedding good practice and, in particular, using technologies in order to ensure that Edinburgh Napier remains forward thinking.
- To engage in developmental projects and conduct research in relevant areas and to seek to build the external reputation of Edinburgh Napier University as well as to develop a personal external profile through publication and presentations at conferences and external events.
- To participate in the University's Personal Development Review scheme, MyContribution.
- Role model the University's values & behaviours.

- Be responsible for ensuring that the information and records processed (received, created, used, stored, destroyed) on behalf of the University are managed in compliance with ALL applicable legislation, codes and policies e.g. [Data Protection](#), [Information Security](#) and [Records Management](#).
- To undertake any other duties as may reasonably be required by the Leader of Researcher Development.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL

DESIRABLE

EDUCATION / QUALIFICATIONS

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| • Degree or equivalent in a relevant discipline | ✓ | |
| • Higher degree or experience as a researcher | | ✓ |

SKILLS / EXPERIENCE

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| • Planning, facilitating, and evaluating researcher development activities | ✓ | |
| • Working with individuals and groups at a range of levels within an organisation | ✓ | |
| • Familiarity with contemporary developments in research and innovation, researcher development, and in learning, teaching and assessment practice | ✓ | |
| • Familiarity with policy context for researcher development in the UK and EU | ✓ | |
| • Developed facilitation and presentation skills | ✓ | |
| • Developed interpersonal and networking skills | ✓ | |
| • Ability to communicate clearly, effectively in writing and orally | ✓ | |
| • Developed IT skills | ✓ | |
| • Experience of delivering credit-bearing post-graduate education | | ✓ |
| • Involvement with relevant external networks and activities | | ✓ |
| • Team working | | ✓ |
| • Experience of online delivery of researcher development activities | | ✓ |
| • Ability to think flexibly, innovatively and analytically | | ✓ |
| • Time-management skills and ability to deliver to deadlines | | ✓ |