

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

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| **Job Title** | Deputy Director: Sustainability Research Institute (SRI) |
| **Service** | Sustainability Research Institute (SRI) |
| **Grade** | I |
| **Location**  | Docklands  |
| **Reporting to** | Director of SRI |
| **Liaison with** | All academic and support staff in SRI and associated RI team members, external agencies and internal staff at UEL. |
| **Contract type** | Permanent, Full time. |

Build your career, follow your passion, be inspired by our environment of success **#BeTheChange**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF EAST LONDON**

If you are seeking a career that combines innovative education with a passion for crafting positive change, look no further than the University of East London. Founded in 1898 to meet the skills needs of the 2nd industrial revolution, we’re now in Year 5 of our ground-breaking 10-year Vision 2028 strategic plan, orchestrated by our Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Amanda Broderick.

Our goal is to advance industry 5.0 careers-first education and provide a clear path to the jobs and opportunities of the future. We are committed to driving diversity in the 5.0 talent pipeline, working in partnership to promote talent wherever it is found and creating a sustainable, inclusive, and green future.

But we can't achieve this goal alone. We need forward-thinking, innovative, and curious individuals like you to join our community and help us shape the future. As part of our team, you'll have the opportunity to work with a diverse range of people who share your passion for generating positive change. We’re an inclusive and welcoming community that is constantly moving forward, never satisfied with the status quo.

If you're ready to join a team that values your outstanding skills and perspectives and is dedicated to making a difference, we invite you to explore a career with us. We are excited to welcome versatile individuals who are committed to advancing their careers while making a positive impact on the world.

**SUSTAINABILITY RESEARCH INSTITUTE:**

Since its launch in 2001 UEL’s Sustainability Research Institute (SRI) has brought together research and development of innovative eco-efficient technologies and processes, focusing on changes in infrastructure that benefit the environment and promote a carbon-neutral society. Over the last ten years, the SRI has successfully delivered a wide range of publicly funded research projects, undertaken several consultancy contracts and contract research initiatives, and built an excellent local and international reputation by applying ground-breaking research and knowledge exchange in the real world.

The SRI’s work focuses on a range of emerging research fields and pressing urban and rural sustainability challenges and is centred on three key themes:

* **Blue/Green infrastructure:** exploring how we conserve, restore, and manage our nature-based infrastructure assets to enhance the sustainability and resilience of our rural and urban environments.
* **Sustainable Materials and Resources:** developing a new generation of materials with lower carbon emissions and improved performance.
* **Sustainable Society:** collaborating with stakeholders, such as local communities and businesses, to empower them to engage in the sustainability transition.

**JOB PURPOSE**

We are looking for a Deputy Director to join the SRI, to take a leadership role within the SRI team and across UEL, collaborating with the Director to develop, and support, research activity, mentor early career colleagues, represent the SRI on internal and external committees and panels, and support SRI Research Affiliates from across UEL. This is an exciting opportunity for an experienced researcher to join an innovating and driven multi-disciplinary team working on sustainability projects across the UK, Europe, and globally.

The successful candidate will have a research track record in one of our research themes, or a desire to develop their own research theme within the SRI. This will include experience of developing, submitting, and winning research grants within a sustainability discipline. We are looking for someone who will thrive in a multi-disciplinary research environment focused on supporting external stakeholders to solve real-world challenges and will be able to innovate using their research expertise.

**KEY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The following are the main accountabilities for the job. This list is non-exhaustive and other duties commensurate with the grading of the job, may also be assigned to suit as the University needs require.

* Collaborate with the Director to deliver leadership roles in the Sustainability Research Institute.
* Lead coordination with Schools and Estates of the integration of impactful research across the institution.
* Lead, co-develop, and submit funding bids to a variety of funders.
* Lead, and co-deliver excellent research and research impact for submission into the Research Excellence Framework (REF)
* Support the development of the People, Environment and Culture aspects of the SRI and it associated Units of Assessment for REF
* Represent the SRI on UEL, and external, committees and panels.
* Mentor SRI early-career, and mid-career, researchers, and SRI Affiliates supporting them in grant capture, scientific publication, and knowledge exchange activities.
* Support colleagues from across UEL to develop research excellence through the Institutes Affiliates Programme.
* Act as an ambassador for the SRI and UEL at external events.
* Liaise with partners and colleagues to achieve high quality results
* Support the SRI and UEL in the delivery of KEF and TEF targets.

**PERSON SPECIFCATION**

**KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE**

**Essential criteria:**

* Track record of excellence in sustainability research (A/I)
* Track record of developing and delivering research projects (A/I)
* Experience working in sustainability, biodiversity and/or environmental fields outside academia, and/or in partnership with non-academic partners (A/I)
* Experience of research and/or knowledge exchange project leadership (A/I)
* Line management experience (A/I)
* Experience supervising research students (I)

**Desirable criteria:**

* Comprehensive understanding of the national TEF, KEF and REF landscape (I)
* Evidence of high-quality REF outputs and impact case studies (I)
* Experience working on international and/or multidisciplinary projects (I)
* Experience of working with non-academic stakeholders (I)

**SKILLS AND ABILITIES:**

**Essential criteria:**

* Excellent research skills including qualitative and/or quantitative methods and data analysis, appropriate analysis software, sampling methods, survey research and statistical analysis (e.g. data analysis software R, SPSS, ArcGIS, NVivo, etc) (A/I)
* Excellent interpersonal, networking, and communication skills (I)
* Research grant writing experience (A/I)
* Track record of research grant capture (A/I)
* Track record of scientific publication in high quality journals (A/I)

**Desirable criteria:**

* Teaching experience including PhD supervision (I)
* Experience of statistical analysis programming (e.g., R programming) (I)

**COMPETENCIES REQUIRED**

* Commitment to and understanding of equal opportunities issues within a diverse and multicultural environment (A/I)
* Committed to creating a supportive, healthy and collegiate work environment (A/I)
* Ability to work on multiple projects at a time (I)
* Ability to work independently and as part of small and large teams (I)
* Commitment to the highest ethical and professional standards in research (I)
* Commitment to the promotion and advancement of colleagues and the university (I)

**EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

**Essential criteria:**

* PhD or equivalent qualification in a sustainability field (A/C)
* Strong knowledge of sustainability, biodiversity and/or environmental fields (I)

**Desirable criteria:**

* Professional qualifications related to sustainability (C)
* Associate Professor/Reader status, or equivalent experience (I)
* Membership of professional organisations (I)

**Criteria tested by Key:**

A = Application form C = Certification I = Interview

UEL is an inclusive equal opportunities employer and are proud of our Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity achievements. We expect all employees of UEL to accept our EDI policy and will not tolerate discrimination in any form. As an employee of UEL, we expect you to follow all relevant Health & Safety policies.

We're a disability confident employer and value all applications. Please let us know if you require any reasonable accommodations throughout the recruitment process.

So, if you’d like to take your career to the next level with us here at the University of East London and are passionate about our environment and commit to success, we want you to apply today!