



Further Particulars

This document includes information about the role for which you are applying and the information you will need to provide with the application.

1. Role details

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| Vacancy reference: | 11396 |
| Job title: | Research Professor |
| Reports to: | KMi Director |
| Salary: | Starting from £62,813 |
| Terms and conditions of service: | Academic |
| Grade: | Professorial Band 1 |
| Duration of post: | Permanent |
| Working hours: | 37 hours per week (full time Monday to Friday) |
| Location: | Milton Keynes |
| Closing date: | 16 September 2015 |
| Type of application form accepted: | Electronic: short application form, CV & covering letter |
| Number of referees required: | Three |
| Unit recruitment contact: | kmi-recruitment@open.ac.uk |

2. Summary of duties

The post is intended to strengthen KMi's international research reputation and in particular we are interested in candidates who can pursue a robust and innovative research agenda in one or more of these strategic research areas:

- Data Science (Modelling, Machine Learning, Learning Analytics, Semantics, Big Data Applications, Smart Cities);
- Internet of Things (Smart Objects, Wearable Computing, Ambient Intelligence, Sensor Networks);
- New Media Technologies (New Media for Collaboration and Learning, Interfaces, Augmented Reality, Novel Interaction Techniques).

Candidates are expected to be established leaders in one or more of these areas and should provide evidence that they will be able to further develop their research impact. Key requirements include an excellent international standing as evidenced by substantial publications, a proven ability to acquire and carry out research projects, and demonstrable experience of leading and developing research groups. Candidates are also expected to be excellent communicators, able to engage passionately and communicate clearly with a variety of audiences, within and outside the University. KMi has a special ethos, characterised by a 'can-do attitude' and a dynamic hands-on approach to research and we expect the successful candidate to be able to slot in naturally in such informal, research-oriented environment. Consistent with such hands-on ethos, the candidate should be able to demonstrate evidence of having deployed real technologies, in real contexts, for real users: a hallmark of most KMi activities.

KMi also plays a full part within the wider OU agenda, where research drives innovation in higher education within the context of a 'Students First' mission. Candidates are encouraged to provide evidence and ideas on how they may contribute to this agenda, specifically through the development of technologies which can enhance the OU student experience.

Job Description

This is a senior appointment of high visibility and the successful candidate will be expected to manage a substantial portfolio of research projects with an emphasis on international excellence, publishing and presenting quality papers regularly and the development of leading edge technologies. The post holder will be expected to develop a strong research group, comprising PhD students, research fellows and research assistants, and obtain significant external funding to finance his/her research activities and in general to extend his or her already pronounced impact on the international research scene.

KMi provides an ideal and very supportive environment for carrying out world-class research and the successful candidate will be encouraged to develop his/her research ideas and initiatives. There are no formal teaching responsibilities, though as outlined above aligning research with key external initiatives and our Students First agenda will be welcome. The appointment will be made on the Professorial scale, starting from £62,813 p.a. upwards, depending on experience. This is a permanent post.

3. Person specification

Essential

- A number of years in a senior leadership role in knowledge media, or related fields of computer science, data science, cognitive science, or human-computer interaction, with an international reputation;
- A track record of leading innovative research projects;
- Strong publication record;
- Evidence of working collaboratively with industrial partners;
- Evidence of substantial non-academic impact;
- A track record of obtaining substantial research income from external agencies;
- Evidence of team leadership and ‘thought leadership’;
- Excellent presentation and communication skills;
- Evidence of a hands-on approach to research.

Desirable

- Evidence of successful inter-disciplinary collaboration;
- Evidence of a range of published materials illustrating aptitude for interdisciplinary work.

4. Role specific requirements e.g. Shift working

n/a

5. About the unit/department

The Knowledge Media Institute (KMi) of the UK’s Open University is an 80-strong interdisciplinary laboratory founded in 1995 and located in attractive offices at The Open University’s main campus in Milton Keynes, UK. KMi undertakes high-profile advanced research and development in Knowledge Media: a convergence of research in Cognitive and Learning Sciences, New Media Technologies, Ubiquitous Computing, and Semantic and Data Technologies. KMi is one of the top research centres in the world in the area of knowledge and media technologies and we offer a creative and flexible working environment. The style, impact and content of our work can be seen at <http://kmi.open.ac.uk/>

6. How to obtain more information about the role or application process

If you have any queries about the role and nature of the post prior to applying, please contact the Director Designate of the Knowledge Media Institute by email: john.domingue@open.ac.uk

If you have any questions regarding the application process please contact by email: kmi-recruitment@open.ac.uk

7. The application process and where to send completed applications

Please ensure that your application reaches the University by: **16 September 2015**

Email your application to: kmi-recruitment@open.ac.uk

8. Selection process and date of interview

How to Apply

Complete the short application form

The form has been designed to give the information needed at this initial stage.

Covering letter

Write a covering letter of up to 750 words indicating why you are interested in this post and how you believe your knowledge, experience and skills meet the Person Specification and the Duties to be performed.

Curriculum Vitae (CV)

Please enclose an up-to-date CV with your application of employment. Please remove any information from your CV that might give an indication of your race, religion or belief, or sexual orientation, as these details are irrelevant to your application.

Decisions about short-listing will be based solely on the information you provide on your application form, CV and covering letter.

The Appointing Committee will shortlist candidates whose written application demonstrates a good fit with the Person Specification and the Duties to be performed. Please note that we shall be unable to provide feedback to applicants who are not shortlisted.

Presentations and interviews are planned for October in Milton Keynes, but this may be changed if operationally required. Please also note that occasionally there may be a need for a second interview.

In advance of interview, shortlisted candidates will be asked to provide copies of two recent publications that they have written, together with details of their current research plans. Candidates will be provided with further details after being shortlisted for interview.

The Appointing Committee will most likely be comprised of:

- VC/PVC (Chair);
- KMi Director
- A Senior Professorial Department member;
- A Professorial member from another Faculty in the University;
- An external Professorial member to the Open University.