

Job Description

Reader in Engineering (Education & Research)

Salary:	Grade 10
Contract:	Full time, ongoing
School/Department:	School of Engineering, Mathematics and Physics
Location:	Canterbury Campus
Responsible to:	Head of School (or representative)

Job purpose

The School of Engineering, Mathematics and Physics is seeking to appoint a Reader in Sustainable Engineering who can help us to deliver an outstanding standard of education and contribute to our internationally excellent research and innovation portfolio. We offer a range of programmes across Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Electronic and Computer Engineering disciplines. Our teaching in these areas is research-led with significant amounts of practical laboratory-based work undertaken by our students. The School of Engineering, Mathematics and Physics offers a welcoming and diverse environment that has been recognised with a Silver Athena SWAN award. Our staff and students are from all over the world, and we are proud of our friendly and inclusive culture. We support colleagues through family-friendly policies, including a core hours policy, the right to apply for flexible working, and support for staff returning from periods of extended absence, for example, parental leave.

The role will contribute to research and knowledge exchange activities in Engineering as well as learning and teaching on agreed programmes, with research-backed knowledge and expertise in sustainable energies and/or energy technologies and management. The person appointed will take a leadership role in developing the research strategy for this area as well as in the teaching and development of our new taught MSc programme in Sustainable Engineering. The role holder will also be responsible for administrative and support activities within the broader School, working collaboratively towards School and University aims.

The role is offered on an Education and Research (E&R) contract, appropriate for candidates with a an internationally leading research record and trajectory, evidenced by a portfolio of consistently excellent outputs, along with a proven ability to attract and lead externally-funded research or innovation projects. Strong communication and team-working skills as well as a higher degree in a relevant discipline are essential.

The post-holder should have current experience of planning and delivering education in a modern Engineering programme.

Key accountabilities and duties

The following are the main duties for the job. Other duties, commensurate with the grading of the job, may also be assigned from time to time.

- Lead and contribute to the delivery and design of high quality, demand-driven and student-centred teaching in a variety of settings, including developing own teaching and learning support materials, methods and approaches to meet the learning objectives and requirements of the programme.
- Assess students' work, monitor progress and provide feedback and guidance.
- Undertake and lead research that is internationally competitive, including supervision of research staff and students, which contributes to the overall research strategy of the University of Kent.

- Disseminate research findings through various means including writing or contributing to internationally excellent papers in high-quality publications and presentation at conferences, furthering the research profile of the School and the external visibility and reputation of the University of Kent.
- Secure funds through external applications for research grants and contracts, individually or in collaboration with others, to support your research programme, research staff and PhD students.
- Collaborate with internal and external contacts, participate in networks and build external relationships to further develop research.
- Seek ways to improve practice by analysing feedback and reflecting on teaching design and delivery, undertaking pedagogic research and continually updating and applying knowledge in the subject area.
- Play an active role in all aspects of programme development, enhancement and management, including module design and development, curriculum amendments, recruitment and admissions, marketing, student support, planning and quality assurance.
- Act as personal tutor and be responsible for the pastoral care of students within a specified area, provide first line support and refer to services providing further help as appropriate.
- Contribute fully to the School and University, participating in meetings, working groups, committees, and other activities, carrying out administration activities and proactively supporting the EDI agenda and a collegial work environment.
- May be required to engage in consultancy, innovation, knowledge exchange and CPD activity within own discipline, either as part of the base load or, within the University's standard procedures, for separate remuneration.

Internal & external relationships

Internal: Students, academic, technical and administrative colleagues throughout the School, Head of School, and relevant staff across the wider university community.

External: Relevant external organisations and individuals such as collaborative research partners and funding bodies. The job holder will be working closely with professional bodies and external stakeholders (including collaborations with external universities), including a variety of regional, national and international based organisations and industries.

Health, safety & wellbeing considerations

This job involves undertaking duties which include the following health, safety and wellbeing considerations:

- Regular use of Screen Display Equipment
- Working with experimental apparatus
- Pressure to meet important deadlines such as might be inherent in high profile projects
- There may be a requirement to work evenings and weekends

Person specification

The person specification details the necessary skills, qualifications, experience or other attributes needed to carry out the job. Applications will be measured against the criteria published below.

Selection panels will be looking for clear evidence and examples in an application, or cover letter (where applicable), which back-up any assertions made in relation to each criterion.

Essential Criteria:

- First degree or equivalent in Engineering, and a PhD in Engineering in an area relevant to Energy Technologies or Renewable Energies, or equivalent experience/qualification (A).
- A record of internationally excellent research, with a research profile and level of professional esteem that demonstrate clear recognition within the discipline (A,I,T).

- A portfolio of research publications and /or other outputs in energy technologies and/or renewable energies which consistently demonstrates excellence in terms of research quality (A).
- Evidence of obtaining significant external research and innovation funding (A, I).
- Sufficient breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in Renewable Energies, Energy Technologies and Energy Management to teach within established undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and the capacity to communicate this knowledge effectively to students, along with sufficient subject knowledge to teach outside own specialisms elsewhere on the programmes (A,I,T).
- Experience in the development and delivery of undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and assessment in Engineering in a higher education setting (A,I,T).
- Evidence of excellence in teaching performance at different levels which may include application of innovative and varied learning methods and inclusive teaching practices in order to inspire students and maximise their learning and engagement (I,T).
- Ability to develop, deliver and supervise high quality undergraduate and postgraduate research projects in the field (I).
- Excellent interpersonal and presentation skills to communicate material of a specialist or highly technical nature and to be effective both orally and in writing at a level appropriate to the activity (I,T).
- Willingness to contribute fully, flexibly and cooperatively as part of the School team (I).
- Willingness to engage in continuous professional development activity (I).
- Firm commitment to achieving the University's vision and values, with a passion for a transformative student experience and multidisciplinary, impactful research (I)
- Commitment to deliver equality, diversity and inclusivity in the day to day work of the role (I)

Desirable Criteria:

- A relevant teaching qualification such as PGCHE (A).
- Experience of programme administration/management, including Quality Assurance procedures and practices (A,I,T).
- Evidence of contributing to outreach, public engagement or enterprise activities within local and/or professional communities (A,I)

Assessment stage: A - Application; I - Interview; T - Test/presentation at interview stage