



Job Description: Professorial Research Fellow (NRSC Level 3)

Roles at this level reflect internationally recognised leadership in research and agenda setting contributions to the discipline/field. Individuals will not just have achieved major accomplishments in research, but will also have engaged with the public and/or private sector to provide service to public policy or professional practice.

Range of Academic Activities and Responsibilities at Professorial Research Fellow Level

Research productivity

- Publishing work of outstanding quality and significance to the discipline in top quality and well recognised international peer-reviewed outlets
- Conducting substantive and original research into complex problems, ideas, concepts or theories and applying appropriate methodologies
- Developing and carrying forward a coherent research strategy in their discipline which achieves public recognition and a sustained national and international prominence and fits with the research agenda of the Department and/or Research Centre
- Planning and directing research activities and programmes of outstanding quality and international significance
- Leading major peer reviewed funding bids for research programmes in the specialist area and achieving substantial success in attracting such funding
- Contributing to the development of centre/institute/department and School research strategy
- Leading and participating in national and international committees - e.g. REF panels, Research Funding bodies, European Commission committees etc
- Leading scholarly initiatives in the discipline
- Membership of boards of international journals and other bodies related to the discipline
- Providing expert opinion and commentary to external audiences and bodies
- Providing advice to government bodies

Knowledge engagement and impact

- Evidencing research leadership and expertise through advising or participating in government/international committees, private sector organisations, international bodies, the non-profit sector, or in other governmental or non-governmental organisations
- Leading scholarly initiative in relevant disciplinary or inter-disciplinary communities – e.g. editorial of journals, membership of committees in professional associations, appointment to significant research bodies
- Ensuring that research impact and engagement with wider audiences is at the heart of research strategy within the centre/institute/department.
- Engaging with non-academic audiences.

Management and leadership of research projects

- Co-ordinating a number of teams or projects on a longer-term basis, ensuring that the team are collectively producing outputs that are of outstanding quality and published in top quality and well recognised international peer-reviewed outlets and/or producing significant research impacts
- Determining the overall direction of major research projects

- Leading and managing teams of researchers
- Financial management of research projects and maintaining productive, ongoing relationships with funders
- Training and supervising the work of research staff
- Providing leadership to the development of teams.

Activities relating to departmental/School management and administration

- Fostering collegiality and fulfilling responsibilities as set out by the Head of Department or Centre/Institute Director
- Where appropriate, establishing/Directing/Co-Directing Research Centres and leading the activities of teams within Research Centres
- Providing leadership in the overall management of the centre/institute/department in areas such as budget management and business planning and contributing to departmental level strategic planning
- Contributing to strategic deliberations and making decisions at Institutional level, e.g. through office holding and chairing/membership of School committees
- Leading strategic management development in the centre/institute/department and the School
- Liaising with central and centre/institute/departmental administration across the School to resolve issues concerning research and research administration
- Mentoring and appraising research staff and providing advice on their career development.
- Providing leadership on centre/institute/department recruitment activity of research staff, including membership of relevant search committees.
- Engaging with external institutions, organisations and the wider community to support research and other School strategic objectives.

Activities relating to the discipline, academic and professional body

- Participation and occasional leadership roles in national and international professional bodies and other initiatives concerned with promoting the interests of the social sciences or a particular discipline.

Other responsibilities may include:

- Supervising Masters or PhD students.

Precise duties are subject to the opportunities available, the contractual obligations imposed by the external funding agency and with the agreement of the grant-holder, Principal Investigator, Centre/Institute Director and/or Head of Department, in accordance with established line management arrangements and commensurate with the post.