

| JOB DESCRIPTION AND PERSON SPECIFICATION | |
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| Job Title: Sustainable Denim Research & Development Project Lead - Centre for Circular Design (UAL) – Blackhorse Lane Ateliers (BFTT Partnership) | Accountable to: Academic Mentor & Creative R&D SME Programme Manager |
| Contract Length: 18 months | Job Type: Part-time (0.5 FTE) |
| Salary: £38,694.00 - £46,423.00 pa (pro-rata) | Grade: 5 |
| College/Service: RMA | Location: Chelsea College of Arts (UAL), SW1P 4JU & Blackhorse Lane Ateliers, Walthamstow, London. |
| Background: <p>The Business of Fashion, Textiles & Technology (BFTT) Partnership is a multi-million pounds initiative aimed at accelerating the growth of fashion, textile and technology sector through collaborative R&D partnerships and projects. The five-year industry-led project focuses on delivering innovation within the entire fashion and textile supply chain, with special attention given to positioning industry as agents of new technology and materials development.</p> <p>This post is an exciting opportunity for a Post Graduate, or Post-Doctoral Researcher (or equivalent demonstrable industry / research experience) to work as the Research & Development (R&D) Project Lead, facilitating a novel collaborative project, between the Centre for Circular Design at Chelsea College of Arts (UAL) and Blackhorse Lane Ateliers.</p> <p>The successful candidate will work with the management and production teams at Blackhorse Lane Ateliers, who are a socially and environmentally sustainable craft denim maker based in London, and research experts in circular fashion & textile design at the Centre for Circular Design in University of the Arts London.</p> <p>You will be employed by the University of the Arts London but be predominately based at Blackhorse Lane Ateliers with premises on Blackhorse Lane in Walthamstow, London. You will spend some time at the University on research as well as receiving academic, technical and mentoring support throughout the project.</p> <p>Blackhorse Lane Ateliers' Wash Lab has been awarded funding within the BFTT R&D SME Support Programme. The Programme aims to foster a creative business development culture which will enable fashion, textile and technology SMEs to thrive using bespoke R&D as a mechanism for innovation and growth.</p> <p>The principal aim of the project is to develop R&D around sustainable denim-washing / finishing processes and product development through the set-up of the first state-of-the art, sustainable denim-washing & finishing laboratory in London.</p> | |
| Purpose of the Role: <p>The main purpose of this role is to work collaboratively with the Academic Mentor for Blackhorse Lane Ateliers' Wash Lab and the Company Lead to facilitate the delivery of the R&D project's key objectives including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set-up of the first state-of-the-art sustainable denim washing & finishing lab in London. • Research and development of suitable methodologies to on-shore the full denim manufacturing process. • Development a new Blackhorse Lane Ateliers washed denim product line. • R&D around circular approaches to denim product design and manufacturing. <p>This is a key role for the project and requires an experienced researcher with appropriate industry experience in fashion and/or textiles design, and/or textiles engineering, with an interest or experience in sustainable textile finishing techniques and applied collaborative research. The role also requires excellent organisational and project management skills.</p> | |

Part of the role may involve supporting the Director/Principal Investigator (PI), Co-Investigators (CI) and Creative R&D Programme Manager of the Business of Fashion Textiles & Technology Partnership (BFTT) in the delivery of Challenge 2.

Duties and Responsibilities

- To facilitate the R&D collaboration between the university and the company for the duration of the R&D project.
- To undertake the overall management of the R&D project with Blackhorse Lane Ateliers and co-ordination of the project team's activities so that the project aims and outcomes can be effectively planned, executed, documented and communicated.
- To undertake the research and development of the core project aim under supervision from the project's Academic Mentor and the Company Lead for the duration of the project.
- To develop, facilitate and document the process of key project objectives.
- To successfully execute the project's implementation plan, refining and making adjustments where needed in consultation with the Academic Mentor, the Company Lead and the BFTT Creative R&D Programme Manager.
- To organise and lead quarterly evaluation meetings with Blackhorse Lane Ateliers' key personnel, the academic mentor (and BFTT team when relevant) to discuss and review the project implementation plan, key activities, milestones and resources. To act on decisions made within these meetings, and lead on the quarterly reporting of the project to the BFTT R&D SME Programme.
- Travel to attend meetings and make presentations both within the project partners working group and to external stakeholders.
- Be responsible for conducting the day to day running of the project.
- Whenever relevant, to work with the Principal Investigator and Co-Investigators to produce papers for publication within International and National Journals and presentation and relevant conferences.
- Maintain confidentiality at all times and ensure that intellectual property (IPR) agreements are not violated.
- Engage in training programmes in the University (or elsewhere) that are consistent with the needs and aspirations of the project and those of the Department.
- To perform such duties consistent with your role as may from time to time be assigned to you anywhere within the University.
- To undertake health and safety duties and responsibilities appropriate to the role
- To work in accordance with the University's Equal Opportunities Policy and the Staff Charter, promoting equality and diversity in your work
- To undertake continuous personal and professional development, through effective use of the University's Planning, Review and Appraisal scheme and staff development opportunities
- To make full use of all information and communication technologies in adherence to data protection policies to meet the requirements of the role and to promote organisational effectiveness
- To conduct all financial matters associated with the role in accordance with the University's policies and procedures, as laid down in the Financial Regulations

Key Working Relationships:

- Director/Principal Investigator, BFTT
- Creative R&D Programme Manager, BFTT
- Academic Mentor (WP2 – Wash Lab Project), BFTT
- Company Lead and relevant company personnel (Blackhorse Lane Ateliers).
- Project Manager, BFTT
- Research project team and industry partners across the UK

Specific Management Responsibilities

Budgets: None

Staff: None

Other (e.g. accommodation; equipment): None

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(UAL) – Blackhorse Lane Ateliers (BFTT Partnership)

Grade: 5

Person Specification

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| Specialist Knowledge/ Qualifications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PG qualification in the area of or textiles design, fashion design or textiles engineering or equivalent research and/or industry experience. (essential) Comprehensive knowledge of textile design, production and finishing techniques gained through research and/or relevant R&D industry work. (essential) Comprehensive knowledge of denim design and/or production gained through research and/or relevant R&D industry work. (desirable) Comprehensive knowledge of the commercial and design landscape of woven fabrics (essential) and in particular denim textiles and denimwear. (desirable) Knowledge of circularity and sustainability within the textile and fashion context. (desirable) |
| Relevant Experience | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 5 years' experience with fashion/textiles design AND/OR fashion/textiles production and finishing processes. (essential) Experience of working within a denim brand and/or manufacturer. (desirable) Experience of washing and/or finishing techniques using sustainable technologies including laser. (desirable) Familiarity with Jeanologia, Tonello or similar washing and finishing systems. (desirable) |
| Communication Skills | <p>Communicates effectively orally and in writing adapting the message for a diverse audience in an inclusive and accessible way.</p> <p>Strong presentation skills.</p> |

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| Research, Teaching and Learning | <p>Ability to collect and to analyse data related to fashion, textiles and related technology.</p> <p>Quantitative and qualitative research skills suited to the analysis of sustainable finishing techniques and the development of a commercially sustainable business.</p> |
| Professional Practice | <p>Contributes to advancing professional practice/research or scholarly activity in own area of specialism.</p> |
| Leadership and Management | <p>Excellent organisational and project management skills. (essential)</p> <p>Plans, prioritises and manages resources effectively to achieve long term objectives.</p> |
| Teamwork | <p>Works collaboratively in a team and where appropriate across or with different professional groups and industries.</p> <p>Is able to take appropriate level of responsibility and act with initiative.</p> |
| Student experience or stakeholder service | <p>Builds and maintains positive relationships with key stakeholders related to project activities.</p> |
| Creativity, Innovation and Problem Solving | <p>Suggests practical solutions to new or unique problems.</p> |

The application form sets out a number of competence questions related to some of the following selection criteria. Shortlisting will be based on your responses to these questions. Please make sure you provide evidence to demonstrate clearly how you meet these criteria