



**Professor (0.6), Centre for Fashion Business and Innovation**

**Candidate Pack – February 2019**

## London College of Fashion Professor, Centre for Fashion Business and Innovation Research

Candidate Pack – Thursday, 21 February 2019

### Executive Summary

London College of Fashion (LCF) is one of the foremost centres of fashion education in the world, consistently regarded as one of the world's top five fashion schools by most ranking tables. It has been leading international fashion education from the start, partnering with institutions in countries all over the world delivering opportunities, specialist courses and the chance for students and staff to exchange knowledge and cultural value. The College's strategic relationships support an ever-evolving global fashion industry worth billions.

Shortlisted for The Times Higher Education Business School of The Year 2017 awards, the Fashion Business School is a multidisciplinary school which enjoys a global reputation for its unique fashion business courses, high quality teaching and research. The courses offered have evolved to support, as well as challenge, this economically and globally important sector - a sector that LCF continues to shape, with more than half of their courses now non-design, reflecting their commitment to the enterprising as well as creative talents of its students.

LCF is now seeking a professor to lead the newly established Centre for Fashion Business and Innovation Research on a FTE 0.6 basis to provide academic leadership and play a strategic role in the development of the College's research work and in particular to that of the Centre for Fashion Business and Innovation Research. The post holder will have produced research outputs that are internationally excellent and have a record of developing external collaborations with international academic and industry partners of strategic importance.

For an informal discussion please contact Kerry Wallace via email on [kerry.wallace@society-search.com](mailto:kerry.wallace@society-search.com).

Applications must consist of a full CV and covering letter outlining fit against the person specification.

**The deadline for receipt of applications is midday (BST) on Monday, 8 April 2019.**

## Organisation

### University of the Arts London

University of the Arts London is a vibrant world centre for creativity and innovation, drawing together six Colleges with international reputations in art, design, fashion, communication and performing arts:

- Camberwell College of Arts;
- Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design;
- Chelsea College of Art and Design;
- London College of Communication;
- London College of Fashion;
- Wimbledon College of Art.

Located within London, the Colleges are at the heart of their respective communities. Drawing on and contributing to the local culture, they foster closely-knit and welcoming environments in which to work and study, supported by all the resources of the larger University and the wider arts community. The Colleges offer the University's 18,500 students a diverse range of courses at all levels from foundation and undergraduate to postgraduate and research. The University's 1,228 teaching staff, as active professional artists, practitioners, designers, critics and theorists, lead the way on creative and experimental practice alongside historical and theoretical analysis. The combination of a varied student group, cutting-edge research and highly-experienced staff creates a unique, multifaceted learning experience for students at the University.

### London College of Fashion

London College of Fashion (LCF) is one of the foremost centres of fashion education in the world, consistently regarded as one of the world's top five fashion schools by most ranking tables. It has been leading international fashion education from the start, partnering with institutions in countries all over the world delivering opportunities, specialist courses and the chance for students and staff to exchange knowledge and cultural value. The College's strategic relationships support an ever-evolving global fashion industry worth billions.

The College began in 1906 when the Shoreditch Technical Institute Girls School and later the Barrett Street and Clapham Trade Schools opened and began training young girls in the art of dressmaking, millinery, embroidery and hairdressing. Since then, LCF has seen tremendous change both within the College and across the industry.

The College is extremely proud to be a global leader in fashion education, research and consultancy. It offers over 60 undergraduate and postgraduate degrees and 165 short courses in all things fashion, from business to design and fashion curation. Staff and students use fashion alongside cultural and historical practice to challenge social, political and ethical agendas. Much of its success is down to its dedicated people, and you will play an important role in shaping the next generation of creative professionals, and impact on the future of so many creative industries.

This is a compelling time to join the College as it embarks on an exciting journey over the next four years and beyond. By 2022 the College will move to the Stratford Waterfront, as part of a new cultural hub in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

## Values

### **Fashion shapes lives**

Fashion can change lives. Through teaching, specialist research, and collaborative work, they empower their students to think differently, using fashion to examine the past, build a sustainable future, and improve the way we live.

### **Fashion means business**

Through inspirational teaching they nurture the next generation of creative leaders and thinkers who work in responsible, analytical and ingenious ways. Their strategic commercial partnerships support local and global enterprise. Students benefit from their connections with industry and so does industry.

### **Fashion tells stories**

They nurture every student's distinctive voice, teaching them how to challenge and define the future of fashion through cutting-edge media approaches across all channels: broadcast, print, digital, interactive, experiential – and experimental.

### **Fashion makes style**

In design, they teach a combination of heritage and radical thinking. Craftsmanship and new technology. Engineering – and in-depth design research. They teach innovative ideas first – and then innovative practice to bring them to life.

## Research at LCF

Research at LCF thrives within the College's unique specialist and transdisciplinary environment and is supported and resourced by dedicated research facilities such as those provided by cosmetic science and digital laboratories, Fashion Space Gallery (FSG), world-class library and archive.

LCF hosts two world-leading UAL Research Centres: [Fashion Curation](#) and [Sustainable Fashion](#); the [Digital Anthropology Lab](#) and seven Research Hubs including one that supports the activity of approximately 70 PhD students. Research spans practice and theory in design, performance, curation, artefact, psychology, cosmetic science, social science, sustainable and material practices, creative business and management, digital production and communication; film, media and cultural studies. In 2022 LCF is moving to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park (QEOP) in Stratford, and is a co-founder of the [Global Disability Innovation Hub](#), with Stratford East partners, UCL, Loughborough London, Sadlers' Wells and the V&A. Their newly formed Centre for Fashion Business and Innovation Research aims to influence through economic, cultural and societal impacts, the future role of fashion business in the global creative economy.

As one of six UAL colleges, LCF contributed to the Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014), where UAL's research was assessed as being 83% World Leading and international. It is first in the Power ranking for Art and Design: History, Practice and Theory. LCF research feeds directly into the University of the Arts London Research Strategy.







## *Fashion Business School*

The Fashion Business School has started to establish a research culture which contributes to the overall research profile of the London College of Fashion. Fashion business research underpins the postgraduate and undergraduate courses recognised both nationally and internationally for their specialised outputs.

The fashion industry has the potential to generate huge social and cultural impacts, be it through supply chain reform, adoption of next-generation materials and technology, or facilitating sustainable innovation through traditional craft and digital techniques. The state of the fashion industry is ever changing, from retail challenges to the increased awareness of both ethical and sustainable goals.

## *The Centre for Fashion Business and Innovation Research*

The Centre for Fashion Business and Innovation Research aims to intersect research, knowledge exchange and pedagogy in order to influence the economic, social and cultural aspects of the fashion industry over the coming decades. The centre is currently in a nascent stage and will provide an extremely exciting opportunity for those wanting to push further into both Business and Innovation Research at the college.

The aims of the Centre are:

- to explore how the future of the business of fashion might be shaped by the creative forces inherent in the industry;
- to collaborate with fashion business practitioners in order to better understand key fashion business trends, opportunities and challenges whether from the perspective of SMEs or large corporates;
- to build capacity in fashion business research and practice through supporting research staff and research students.

Higher Education is acknowledged as central to the development and supply of sufficiently skilled and innovative workers into the creative economy. Further to this, the creative industries are very significant to the Government's Industrial Strategy. Fashion business is no exception, and the need for both enterprising employees and entrepreneurs becomes more pressing as the digital agenda changes the shape of fashion business. Embedded in the Fashion Business School, LCF the Centre will support their fashion business courses, which attract students from across the globe, who represent the future direction and influence of the industry.

Furthermore, LCF's relocation to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in 2022 has triggered the opportunity to develop a major fashion cluster (the Fashion District) in East London, providing a new environment for fashion manufacturing and innovation, creating a new destination for fashion businesses alongside a long-established creative community. In the process, LCF are positioning themselves in relation to national and regional policy priorities, opening up a range of new research opportunities and partnerships.

Fashion business research, like the industry and wider creative sector, is growing in visibility, influence and impact. LCF is well-placed to lead in this innovative and vitally important research field.



## Role Description

### *Purpose of Job*

The post holder will show academic leadership and have a strategic role in the development of the College's research work and in particular to that of the Centre for Fashion Business and Innovation Research. They will have produced research outputs that are internationally excellent and have a record of developing external collaborations with international academic and industry partners of strategic importance.

Reporting to the Head of LCF and working with the Dean of the Fashion Business School and the College Associate Dean of Research, the post-holder will develop a portfolio of research through work in the field of Fashion Business and Innovation at London College of Fashion. Working closely with Fashion Business School, LCF Research Coordinator they will be responsible for directing the research outputs of all academic staff aligned to the Fashion Business School, LCF. They will support the work of Professors, Readers and post -doctoral staff members aligned to the Centre for Fashion Business and Innovation Research.

The post holder will direct, lead and support development of research projects that significantly contribute to the academic research profile and foci as the College progresses toward moving to its new location on the Stratford Waterfront (2022), linking wider University interests and forging emergent academic and industry partnerships.

The post-holder will take a leading role in their field of research and evidence involvement at a senior level with relevant professional bodies or learned societies. They will initiate, plan and direct the writing of external funding bids as either Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator and have a record of acquiring significant external funding. The post holder is expected to act as Director of Study and/ or supervisor to research degree students as appropriate to their workload.

### *Duties and Responsibilities:*

- acting as the key lead for the Centre for Fashion Business and Innovation Research through directing, planning and supporting the centre's research activities and outputs;
- supporting and developing the research activities and profiling of the College, working with the Dean of the Fashion Business School and the College Associate Dean of Research;
- leading the development of external funding applications to research councils, charitable trusts and relevant agencies as the Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator;
- working with the other Research Centre Directors and College Research staff and contributing to the research culture through membership of College and/or University Research Committees;
- informing and contributing toward the College REF panel and submission;
- producing and publishing research and scholarship which makes a significant contribution to the furtherance of knowledge and its application within the context of fashion business and innovation research;
- contributing to the academic research profile of the College, through attendance and participation at relevant national and international forums, and through participation at College/Centre/University conferences and events; and through membership of editorial boards of significant journals or academic presses;
- contributing to seminars, conferences and related events initiated by College Research Centres, Hubs, and Staff interests;



- supporting the development of collaborative research links and partnerships across the University, other Universities, relevant institutions and with industry;
- mentoring Post-Doctorate Students and Early Career Researchers;
- line managing staff as appropriate;
- being involved in all aspects of the recruitment, supervision and support of College/Centre doctoral students;
- contributing to teaching and to curriculum design and development in the relevant discipline;
- performing such duties consistent with your role as may from time to time be assigned to you anywhere within the University;
- working in accordance with the University's Equal Opportunities Policy and the Staff Charter, promoting equality and diversity in your work;
- undertaking health and safety duties and responsibilities appropriate to the role;
- undertaking continuous personal and professional development, and supporting the management of appointed staff through effective use of the University's Planning, Review and Appraisal scheme and staff development opportunities;
- making full use of all information and communication technologies in adherence to data protection policies, meeting the requirements of the role and promoting organisational effectiveness;
- conducting all financial matters associated with the role in accordance with the University's policies and procedures, as laid down in the Financial Regulations;
- personally contributing towards reducing the university's impact on the environment and supporting actions associated with the UAL Sustainability Manifesto (2016 - 2022).

### *Key Working Relationships:*

- Head of College;
- College Associate Dean of Research;
- Dean of the Fashion Business School;
- School Research Coordinator;
- Fashion Business School academics aligned to Research Career Pathway;
- College Research Staff, Centre Directors and Hub Coordinators;
- College Research Administration;
- UAL Research Management and Administration;
- UAL Professoriate.



## Person Specification

The successful candidate will be expected to demonstrate evidence of the following skills, capabilities and experience:

### Specialist Knowledge/Qualifications:

- relevant qualification in lifestyle sector business, innovation, economy;
- PhD required;
- Professor/Reader in the areas of lifestyle/fashion business, innovation.

### Relevant Experience:

- recognised international research active profile;
- experience of developing and writing research proposals and funding bids;
- experience of managing a research community;
- experience of REF / Impact delivery.

### Skills:

- **Communication:** communicates in a compelling and influential way. Adapts style and message to a diverse internal or external audience in an inclusive and accessible way;
- **Leadership and management:** motivates and leads effectively, setting the direction of one or more function and promotes collaboration across formal boundaries;
- **Research, teaching and learning:** applies innovative approaches in leading academic programmes, teaching, learning or professional practice to support excellent teaching, pedagogy and inclusivity. Applies own research to develop learning and assessment practice.
- **Professional practice:** contributes to advancing professional practice/research or scholarly activity in own area of specialism;
- **Planning and managing resources:** effectively plans, prioritises and manages the delivery of complex projects or activities to achieve long term strategic objectives;
- **Teamwork:** builds effective teams, networks or communities of practice and fosters constructive cross team collaboration;
- **Student experience or customer service:** makes a significant contribution to improving the student or customer experience to promote an inclusive environment for students, colleagues or customers;
- **Creativity, innovation and problem solving:** identifies innovative practical solutions to new or unique problems.

## Appointment Details and How to Apply

London College of Fashion is being assisted in this appointment process by the executive search firm Society.

Applications should consist of a CV, ideally accompanied by a brief covering letter addressing the criteria in the Person Specification. To upload these documents via Society's website, [click here](#).

The deadline for receipt of applications is **midday (BST) on Monday, 8 April 2019**.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to give a presentation on **Wednesday, 15 May 2019** and have their Formal panel interview on **Thursday, 16 May 2019**.

An appointment will be made subject to receipt of satisfactory references. The appointed candidate will be offered a salary that is commensurate with their experience and the seniority of their new role.





## Appendix – Benefits

### *Generous annual leave*

Employees at UAL enjoy a generous annual leave allowance on top of bank holidays. Academic staff receive 39 days annual leave pro-rata.

### *Flexible working*

UAL supports a healthy work-life balance with policies on flexible working which may be requested after at least 26 weeks continuous service. Flexibility may apply to your hours of work, the times that you work or where you work.

### *Free places on UAL Short Courses*

UAL staff are offered the opportunity to attend certain short courses free of charge, if undersubscribed, subject to availability.

### *Defined benefit pension schemes*

All employees with a contract longer than 12 weeks can join one of the three benefit pension schemes at UAL. These offer competitive rates and some offer life cover pay-outs.

### *Family friendly policies*

UAL offer generous maternity, paternity and adoption leave packages, which are more favourable than statutory requirements, after a qualifying period.

### *Interest-free season ticket loans*

Interest-free loans are available to help staff buy an annual season ticket for their journey to and from work. This includes rail, London Underground, bus or other season tickets.

### *Computer purchase loan scheme*

Employees are also eligible to apply for a computer loan following successful completion of their probationary period.

### *Well-being*

- employees can benefit from corporate rates at a number of gyms and fitness centres across London;
- if you use a computer at work you are eligible for a free eye test plus a discount on glasses via Specsavers;
- discounts on private healthcare insurance with Bupa Eduhealth Scheme or Universities and Colleges Personal Healthcare Scheme;
- a Cycle to Work scheme can enable you to purchase a bike via salary sacrifice - saving on tax and paying for it in monthly instalments deducted from your pay;
- a supportive sick pay scheme for those times when you're ill and access to a specialist occupational health service;
- confidential Care is a counselling and advisory service available online or over the phone to all employees at UAL. It is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, covering any issue that may be affecting you.