



Dean of Academic
Strategy,
London College of
Fashion

Candidate Pack
November 2018

ual:

University of the Arts London

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Executive Summary

University of the Arts London is the world's sixth best university for Art and Design in the QS World University Rankings® 2018. It offers an extensive range of courses in art, design, fashion, communication and performing arts, with graduates going on to work in and shape creative industries worldwide.

The London College of Fashion 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, including the prestigious Business of Fashion Global Fashion School Rankings. 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 connections support an ever-evolving global fashion industry worth billions.

They are seeking to appoint a Dean of Academic Strategy to work closely with the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) and Pro Vice Chancellor/Head of College to ensure the College academic strategy and operational plan is aligned to UAL strategic objectives.

Candidates will be a leading authority in their subject or profession with widespread public or professional recognition within their institution alongside possessing demonstrable knowledge of past and present organisations and trends in the UK and world fashion, cultural history or creative industries.



Organisation

The University is made up of six renowned Colleges, each with its own world-class reputation. Their state of the art facilities include workshops with letterpress machinery, studio theatres and gallery space, as well as libraries and archives for research into hundreds of years of the greatest artists and designers. The six constituent Colleges are as follows:

- **Camberwell College of Arts:** Camberwell offers courses in fine art, design and conservation. Its unique studio culture gives students the freedom to explore their creativity and use facilities that embrace traditional craftsmanship and digital technology;
- **Central Saint Martins:** Central Saint Martins is a world leading centre for art and design education. Its reputation is based on its graduates' achievements and the creative energy of staff and students;
- **Chelsea College of Arts:** Chelsea specialises in curating, fine art, graphic design communication, textile design, interior and spatial design. It provides students with a stimulating space and supportive atmosphere so they can develop their practice;
- **London College of Communication:** London College of Communication is a pioneering centre for design and media education. It works at the cutting edge of new thinking and prepares its students to define the future of the creative industries;
- **London College of Fashion:** London College of Fashion is a leading global provider of fashion education, research and consultancy. It offers undergraduate and further education courses, integrated and postgraduate masters, research degrees and short courses;
- **Wimbledon College of Arts:** Wimbledon has a range of fine art, theatre and screen design courses. It encourages practical experimentation as a way to learn the skills needed for a successful career in the arts.

The University has launched the careers of many creative and cultural leaders, for example:

- over half of all Turner Prize winners since its inception in 1984 are UAL alumni or current staff;
- 36 of the 77 Royal Academicians are UAL alumni, serving or former staff;
- almost two thirds (62%) of the recipients of British Designer of the Year are UAL alumni;
- 14% (20) of the current Royal Designers for Industry are UAL alumni;
- over half of the fashion designers that showed at London Fashion Week A/W 2016 are UAL alumni;
- multiple winners in the most prestigious art and design awards: from the BP Portrait Award; Jerwood Prize; Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize; Minerva Medal; BAFTAs, Golden Globes and Oscars.

Strategic Plan

The University has launched an ambitious seven-year strategy [2015-22](#) with four key strategic areas that will ensure UAL continues to be a world-class place of learning.

As a creative university, its future is formed by the imagination, energy and skills of their staff, students, alumni and of the many academics from other institutions who work closely with them each year.

There are four major aims in UAL's strategy. First, to be the best teachers in creative education. Second, to generate new knowledge that will address the challenges of today, fascinate students, and grow its income. Third, to increase its influence and impact as they become a global university. And fourth, to build the best physical and digital context for creative education, valuing traditional tools and workshops as much as emerging technology.

Learn more about UAL's four strategic areas via the links below:

- [Transformative Education:](#)
- [World-leading Research and Enterprise:](#)
- [Communication and Collaboration:](#)
- [Building an Inspirational Environment.](#)



London College of Fashion

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 future creative professionals, and impact on the future of so many creative industries.

This is an opportune 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.

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 the cosmetic science and digital laboratories, Fashion Space Gallery (FSG), world-class library and archive.

LCF hosts two world-leading UAL Research Centres: for 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 2021, 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.

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.

Values

Fashion shapes lives

Fashion can change lives. Through teaching, specialist research, and collaborative work, LCF 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 LCF 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 LCF connections with industry and so does industry.

Fashion tells stories

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

Location

LCF is based across six different sites throughout London, one of the main fashion capitals of the world. It will move to one site in Stratford in 2022.

The role will be based at LCF's main campus in John Prince's Street, just off Oxford Circus and close to the fashion meccas of Savile Row and Bond Street.





Role Description

Working to the Pro Vice Chancellor/Head of College, the Dean of Academic Strategy will seek to work closely with the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) and PVC/Head of College to ensure the College academic strategy and operational plan is aligned to UAL strategic objectives. This opportunity offers:

- leading on the development and delivery of the Academic Strategy and the academic aspects of the Annual Operating Plan within the College, by working closely and collaboratively with the DVC (Academic), PVC/Head of College, Deans of School, Associate Deans, Associate Dean for Research, Director of College Administration and fellow Deans of Academic Strategy across the University;
- having strategic input into academic resource allocation and student number planning, working to the Head of College and closely with the Director of College Administration, including input into the processes for the setting and review of recruitment targets across the College, and working with colleagues to establish effective recruitment strategies and monitoring systems;
- leading an effective framework for quality assurance and enhancement, which delivers continuous improvement, a focus on meeting agreed University and College KPIs and aligns with the requirements of the Office for Students;
- managing course validation and review processes on behalf of the College and ensure high quality outcomes, with oversight of the preparations for all external review and audit activities for higher and further education;
- collaborating with the Teaching and Learning Exchange, Associate Deans and College colleagues, to lead on the development and delivery of strategies for learning and teaching, retention and achievement, and improving the student experience;
- having oversight of staff development activities within the College to ensure the delivery of strategic priorities;
- overseeing and developing the operation of the College's academic governance structures;
- being a member of the College Executive Team;
- representing the College on APSC and AQSC, and to deputise for the PVC in relation to academic strategy, including attendance at Executive Boards as required.

Additional College Duties and Responsibilities:

- providing leadership for the Cultural and Historical Studies department;
- providing leadership for the development of e-learning and new pedagogical approaches in the College;
- leading the Stratford Teaching and Learning Work stream;
- representing the College in the development of effective educational partnerships in East London and beyond;
- providing leadership for the development of our schools, FE and widening participation activity as a College;
- providing oversight of cross college teaching activities and working with the School Deans to ensure effective delivery. For example, of Activities Week, Better Lives unit and other cross College course elements.

In addition, the post holder will be:

- maintaining an involvement in professional practice/research;
- maintaining an understanding of national development in academic regulations and Office for Students requirements;
- playing a full part in University, national and international developments and events relating to subject and sector initiatives;
- representing the College and Pro Vice-Chancellor as required;
- undertaking such other duties as may be defined by the Pro Vice-Chancellor;
- performing such duties consistent with the role as may from time to time be assigned anywhere within the University;
- undertaking health and safety duties and responsibilities appropriate to the role;
- working in accordance with the University's Equal Opportunities Policy and Diversity Policy and the Staff Charter, promoting equality and diversity in your work;
- contributing towards reducing the university's impact on the environment and support actions associated with the UAL Sustainability Manifesto (2016 – 2022);
- undertaking continuous personal and professional development, and to support it for any staff you manage 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 to meet the requirements of the role and to promote 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.

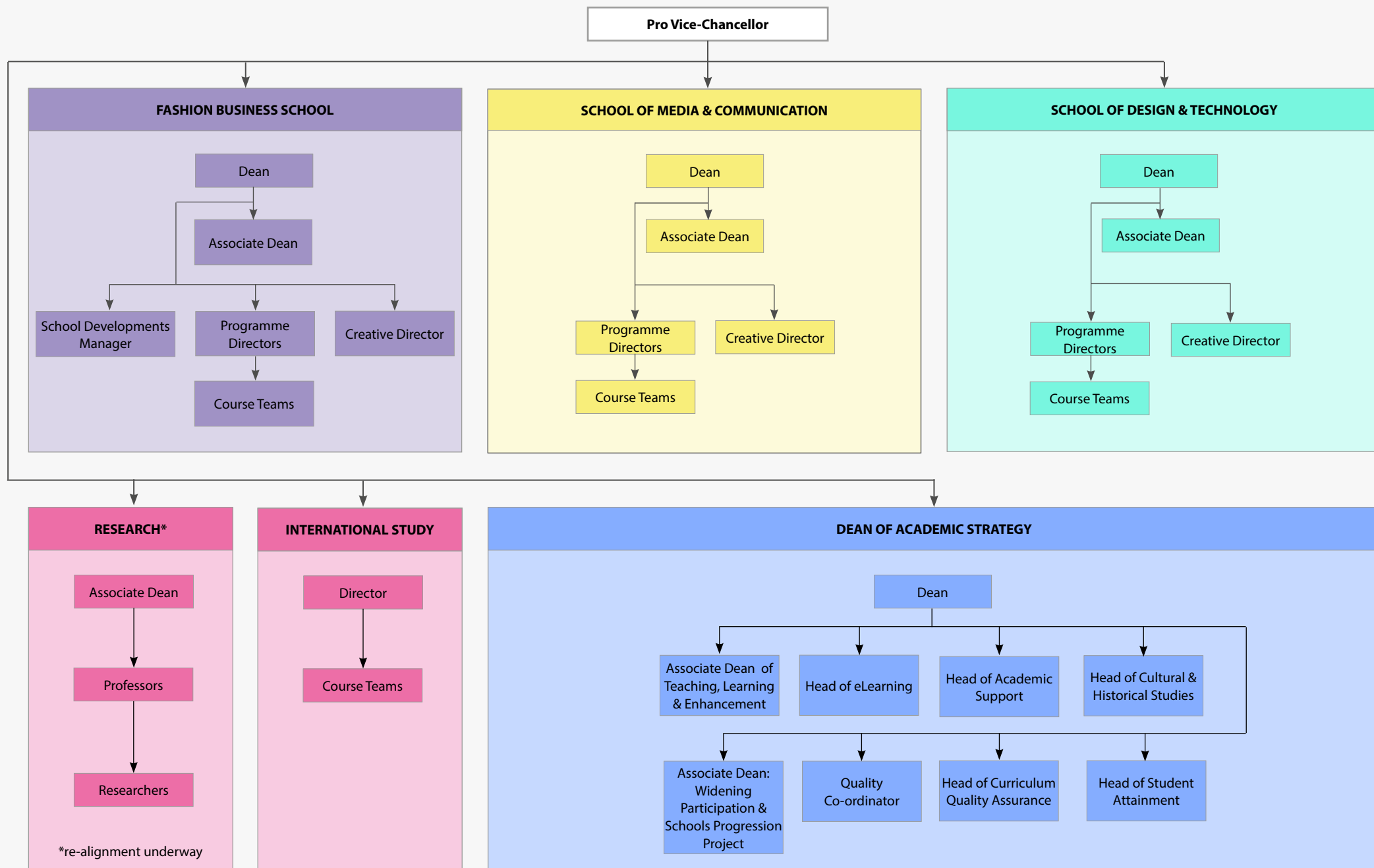


Person Specification

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

- a Post Graduate qualification in a fashion, cultural history, or creative industries related area;
- a PhD in subject area is desirable;
- has demonstrable knowledge of organisations and trends in the UK and world fashion, cultural historical studies, media or creative industries;
- has demonstrable knowledge of all aspects of quality assurance;
- has demonstrable knowledge of one or more fields of contemporary fashion or culture related research, and the mechanisms for managing and funding researchers;
- has knowledge of commercialising fashion/creative industries courses, facilities and research for income generation purposes is desirable;
- adapts the style and message to a diverse internal or external audience in an inclusive and accessible way;
- has demonstrable knowledge of academic provision, trends and issues in Universities, both national and global, and is informed of the particular features of fashion related courses at FE/HE/PG level;
- has experience of formulating the strategic direction and influencing developments within college/ organisation through own contribution to area of expertise;
- has experience of teaching and leadership in a Higher Education Institution;
- is recognised as a leading authority in their subject or profession with widespread public or professional recognition within their institution and amongst external peers based on demonstrated expertise;
- has a substantial record of teaching, research and/or professional practice in one or more of the College's specialist areas;
- ability to communicate in a compelling and influential way;
- motivates and leads effectively, setting the direction of one or more functions and promoting collaboration across formal boundaries;
- 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;
- contributes to advancing professional practice/research or scholarly activity in own area of specialism;
- effectively plans, prioritises and manages complex projects or activities to achieve long term strategic objectives;
- builds effective teams, networks or communities of practice and fosters constructive cross team collaboration;
- makes a significant contribution to improving the student or customer experience to promote an inclusive environment for students, colleagues or customers;
- initiates innovative solutions to problems which have a strategic impact.

ACADEMIC MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE



Appointment Details and How to Apply

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

Applications should consist of a CV, 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 (GMT) on Thursday, 29 November 2018.

An initial longlist of candidates will be invited to have more in-depth conversations with Society during the week commencing 3rd December and 10th December.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to interview with University of the Arts London in January 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.

