

Manufacturing Skills Academy – Skills Researcher

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| Department | National Manufacturing Institute Scotland (NMIS) - https://www.strath.ac.uk/workwithus/nationalmanufacturinginstitutescotland/ | | |
| Faculty | Faculty of Engineering (www.strath.ac.uk/engineering/) | | |
| Staff Category | Administrative and Professional | Reference No | 452277 |
| Reports To | Head of Skills Capability | Grade: | 7 |
| Salary Range: | £33309 - £40927 | Contract Type: | Open Contract |
| FTE: | 1 | Closing Date | Sunday, 7 August 2022 |
| Holidays | 31 days + 11 statutory days Option to purchase additional holidays | On Site Facilities | Car parking |
| Pensions | Contributory pension scheme available to all staff including generous employer contribution. | | |
| Training | Professional Development with Organisational and Staff Development Unit (OSDU) plus external training if required | | |
| Family Friendly Benefits | Generous parental leave provision and options for flexible working | | |
| Health and Wellbeing | Occupational Health service, access to health and wellbeing events, cycle to work scheme, Employee Assistance Programme, agile working and established carers support network and carer friendly policies | | |
| Location | Advanced Forming Research Centre, Inchinnan. However, this position offers hybrid working, and the opportunity for hours to be worked flexibly | | |

Job Advert

The National Manufacturing Institute Scotland (NMIS) is an industry-led international centre of manufacturing expertise where industry, academia and the public-sector support bodies work together to transform skills, productivity and innovation making Scotland and the UK a global leader in advanced manufacturing. NMIS will accelerate innovation by enabling manufacturing companies to trial and test new processes, new applications and demonstrate new manufacturing technologies and techniques at an earlier stage as well as encouraging supply chain collaboration at the research stage of product development.

The Manufacturing Skills Academy within NMIS seeks to appoint a Skills Researcher to guide MSA Leadership/Programme Managers/Project Leads in delivering evidence-based informed skills projects as well as provide research into the global skills landscape, foresighting trends that can be used to inform the MSA strategy and business planning process.

You will join external networks to share information and ideas, inform the development of research objectives and look to identify potential sources of funding. You will collaborate with colleagues to ensure that research advances inform MSA teaching and pedagogy and you will collaborate with colleagues on the development of knowledge exchange activities by, for example, participating in initiatives that establish skills research links with industry, wider education and influence public policy.

Your outputs will address future skills transition needs and requirements including transition to net zero – providing research into upskilling and reskilling to support the development of green skills in support of the ambitions within UK & Scottish Governments – for example Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan (CESAP) and Just Transition and Digital Strategies.

You will work closely with MSA team members and stakeholders and will be responsible for overseeing, organising and reporting on skills project related activities.

To be considered for the role, you will be educated to a minimum of Degree level and you will have sufficient breadth or depth of knowledge in the relevant discipline/s to contribute to skills research programmes and to the development of skills research activities as required by NMIS MSA. You will have experience of working with industry, education, academia and the public sector; strong skills research experience, project management experience, and excellent oral and written communication skills.

Whilst not essential for the role, applications are welcomed from candidates with a skills/engineering/manufacturing background.

This is a unique opportunity to undertake a challenging role within a major project.

*This post is advertised as one FTE however, part time working patterns can also be considered.

Job Description

Brief Outline of Job:

To undertake specific research project/s as per required by the NMIS Manufacturing Skills Academy; to establish an MSA wide skills research portfolio and plan skills research proposals, with assistance from colleagues as required; to engage where required in relevant teaching, professional and knowledge exchange activities and establish skills research links with industry, education and influence public policy.

Main Activities/Responsibilities:

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| 1. | Leadership - As part of the MSA group, lead on developing skills research proposals and objectives and play a lead role in relation to other project/s or broader projects, with guidance from MSA colleagues as required. Represent skills research and the MSA to industry, business, education and the public sector as required. |
| 2. | Finances - Identify sources of funding and contribute to the securing of funds for skills research, including drafting grant proposals and planning for future proposals. Join external networks to share information and ideas and inform the development of wider skills research objectives. |
| 3 | Function - Conduct individual and/or collaborative research, including determining appropriate research methods and contributing to the development of new research methods as appropriate to skills |
| 4. | Collaboration - Collaborate with NMIS & MSA colleagues on the development of knowledge exchange activities by, for example, participating in initiatives, which establish skills research links with industry and influence public policy. |
| 5. | Reporting. Write up skills research work for publication, individually or in collaboration with colleagues, and disseminate results as appropriate to the discipline by, for example, peer reviewed journal publications and presentation at conferences. |
| 6. | Innovation - Collaborate with NMIS colleagues to ensure that skills research advances inform MSA pedagogy and teaching strategies. |
| 7. | Development - Contribute in a developing capacity within NMIS MSA to administrative and management functions and committees. |
| 8 | Relationships – Build relationships with other skills research individuals and bodies across the educational landscape in Scotland and the UK e.g. Scottish College Sector |
| 9. | General - Engage in Continuous Professional Development |

Person Specification

Educational and/or Professional Qualifications

(E=Essential, i.e. a candidate must meet all essential criteria to be considered for selection, D=Desirable)

E1 Educated to Degree level in a relevant discipline

D1 Membership of relevant Chartered/professional bodies

Experience

E2 Sufficient breadth or depth of knowledge in the relevant discipline/s to contribute to skills research programmes and to the development of skills research activities as required by NMIS MSA.

E3 Experience of working with industry, education, academia and the public sector

D2 Experience of financial management and controlling budgets.

D3 Experience of skills knowledge exchange related activities and networking across the educational landscape

Job Related Skills and Achievements

E4 Interpersonal, presentation and written communication skills, including the ability to effectively transfer information and knowledge to others.

E5 A developing ability to conduct individual research work, to disseminate results and to prepare research proposals.

E6 Awareness of skills developments within Industry/Public Sector/Further & Higher Education and within the overall external professional environment which impact on the role

D4 Fundamental understanding of Net Zero Carbon, the Manufacturing sector, digital transformation, and Just Transition

E7 Ability to handle confidential information securely and sensitively.

E8 Proven ability to manage and prioritise workload as well as competing demands from stakeholders.

E9 Proven analytical and interpretational skills.

Personal Attributes

E10 Continuous development of postholder's own specialist/technical/professional capability and expertise through professional study and/or practical application and experience

E11 An aptitude for working with staff of all levels of seniority.

E12 Ability to communicate with a range of programme stakeholders (e.g. academic and non-academic partners, Scottish Government, project stakeholders, general public, media etc)

Application Procedure

Applicants are required to complete an application form including the name of three referees who will be contacted without further permission, unless you indicate that you would prefer otherwise. Applicants should also submit a Curriculum Vitae and a covering letter detailing the knowledge, skills and experience you think make you the right candidate for the job. Applicants should also complete the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form.

Other Information

Further information on the application process and working at Strathclyde can be found on our website (<http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr/workforus>).

Informal enquiries about the post can be directed to Jim Hannigan, Head of Skills Capability (james.hannigan@strath.ac.uk)

Conditions of Employment

Conditions of employment relating to Administrative and Professional Services roles can be found here: [Conditions of Employment](#).

Rewards and Benefits

Our staff have access to a wide range of outstanding benefits that include financial rewards, family friendly and wellbeing benefits and career development opportunities, details of which can be found [here](#).

Probation

Where applicable, the successful applicant will be required to serve a 9 month probationary period.

Pension

The successful applicant will be eligible to join the Universities' Superannuation Scheme. Further information regarding this scheme is available from [Payroll and Pensions](#).

Interviews

Formal interviews for this post are anticipated to be held in August 2022.

Equality and Diversity

The University of Strathclyde is a socially progressive institution that strives to ensure equality of opportunity and celebrates the diversity of its student and staff community. Strathclyde is people-oriented and collaborative, offering a supportive and flexible working culture with a deep commitment to our equality, diversity and inclusion charters, initiatives, groups and networks.

We strongly encourage applications from Black, Asian and minority ethnicity, women, LGBT+, and disabled candidates and candidates from lower socio-economic groups and care-experienced backgrounds.

University Values

The University’s Values capture what we’re all about: who we are, what we believe in and what we stand for. [Our Values](#) have been derived from how we act and how we expect to be treated as part of Strathclyde.

