



JOB DESCRIPTION

Director of Engagement and Innovation DCU Anti-Bullying Centre (ABC), Institute of Education Fixed Term Contract (12 months)

Dublin City University

Dublin City University (DCU) is a young, ambitious and vibrant university, with a mission ‘to transform lives and societies through education, research, innovation and engagement’. Known as Ireland’s ‘University of Enterprise’, DCU is a values-based institution, committed to the delivery of impact for the public good. DCU was named Sunday Times Irish University of the Year 2021.

DCU is based on three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra region of north Dublin. More than 18,000 students are enrolled across five faculties – Science and Health, DCU Business School, Computing and Engineering, Humanities and Social Sciences and DCU Institute of Education.

DCU is committed to excellence across all its activities. This is demonstrated by its world-class research initiatives, its cutting-edge approach to teaching and learning, its focus on delivering a transformative student experience, and its positive social and economic impact. The university continues to develop innovative programmes in collaboration with industry, such as the DCU Futures suite of degrees, which are designed to equip graduates with the skills and knowledge required in a rapidly evolving economy.

DCU’s pursuit of excellence has led to its current ranking among the top 2% of universities globally. It is also one of the world’s Top Young Universities (QS Top 100 Under 50, Times Higher Top 150 Under 100). In the Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings 2021, DCU ranked 23rd in the world for its approach to widening participation in higher education and its ongoing commitment to eradicating poverty, while it ranks 38th globally for its work in reducing inequality and 89th globally for gender equality.

The university is ranked 23rd in the world and first in Ireland for its graduate employment rate, according to the 2020 QS Graduate Employability Rankings. Over the past decade, DCU has been the leading Irish university in the area of technology transfer, as reflected by licensing of intellectual property.

Overview of the department

DCU Anti-Bullying Centre (ABC) is a national university designated research centre located in DCU’s Institute of Education. The Centre is known globally for its research excellence in bullying and online safety. It hosts the prestigious **UNESCO Chair on Tackling Bullying in Schools and Cyberspace** and

International Journal on Bullying Prevention. It is home to scholars with a global reputation as leaders in the field. The work of the Centre builds on over 25 years of research in which we were the first in Ireland to undertake studies on school, workplace, homophobic and cyberbullying.

The aim of ABC is to contribute to solving the real-world problems of bullying and online safety through engagement and innovation with an extensive community of academic and industry partnerships. The extent of our resources and the collaboration between disciplines drive quality education, understanding and innovation in this field.

The objectives of the Centre are aligned to support the United Nations overarching goal to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all by 2030” (SDG4) and supports the implementation of the Government of Ireland’s Action Plan on Bullying (2013), Action Plan for Online Safety (2018-2019), Wellbeing Policy Statement and Framework for Practice (2018-2024), and the WRC/HSA Joint Code of Practice on the Prevention and Resolution of Bullying at Work (2021).

Role Profile

ABC wishes to appoint a Director of Engagement and Innovation to lead the Centre’s increasing engagement and innovation with other units in DCU, as well as with external organisations, industry and other stakeholders. The successful individual will also assist the Director in day-to-day operation of the Centre.

Duties and Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the position include, but are not restricted to, the following:

- Manage day-to-day operational aspects of the Centre, including detailed work plans, project management, resourcing needs, delivery milestones and success criteria for every element of the Centre’s operations – working closely with Principal Investigators, Researchers, Education Officers, and Administrative Staff, to this end.
- Assist the Centre Director on reporting, governance and accountability processes, participation on relevant groups and committees as appropriate,
- Deputise for the Centre Director on Centre delivery objectives as appropriate,
- Provide a high level of support to the Centre Director in the management of operations within the Centre, particularly in relation to resourcing aspects related to engagement and innovation in accordance with the DCU requirements,
- Engage proactively with the project stakeholders to ensure continued excellent cooperation and successful delivery of the Centre’s mission to contribute to solving the real-world problems of bullying and online safety through engagement and innovation.
- Take particular responsibility for FUSE, the Centre’s flagship anti-bullying and online safety programme for schools.
- Take a lead on developing and promoting new research based engagement and innovation initiatives to tackle bullying and online safety in society

- Take a lead on developing new funding streams to assist the Centre's research and education objectives.

Qualifications and Experience

Essential:

- Applicants must demonstrate significant practical experience working at a senior level as a project manager, a strong customer service perspective and a thorough knowledge of Project Management techniques in a large and complex organisation encompassing diverse user communities. Possession of a project management qualification would be a distinct advantage for this role.
- Candidates must have a post-graduate qualification in education, project management or related fields and a minimum of 10 years Project Management experience or equivalent, ideally within the Higher Education sector.
- Have a proven track-record in project delivery and will have experience of working with systems and processes used in third level institutions.
- Excellent interpersonal, communication and organisational skills and an ability to work with a variety of different project stakeholders.
- An ability to influence and persuade at the highest level are essential requirements of this post.
- Proven track record in Senior Project Management skills including financial management, planning, scheduling, reporting, resource management, communications, risk management, dependencies, scope, time quality and budget.
- Applicants must demonstrate the ability to work with a high degree of professional effectiveness including producing accurate reports, meeting deadlines, prioritising and delivering quality work.

Desirable:

The successful individual will ideally possess the following:

- Track record of developing and sustain innovative engagement projects particularly those of an educational nature.
- Applicants must be able to work well within a broader team and demonstrate flexibility and responsiveness.
- Experience of management projects that specifically translate research into educational and commercial programmes.
- Excellent communication skills are required as well as the ability to problem solve, brainstorm and to generate innovative ideas and solutions.