



Dear Candidate,

I am delighted to welcome you to the microsite for the role of Director of Research and Enterprise here at the University of Sussex. I hope that the information you find here is helpful in providing you with the necessary insight into this senior leadership post.

The distinctive ethos with which Sussex was established more than 60 years ago still animates our work today. From the start, Sussex challenged convention and fostered critical thinking. The University set out to disrupt traditional ways of creating and organising knowledge, and in doing so, developed its own distinctive identity which fostered a strong sense of community and purpose.

Sussex has a proud research pedigree with 5 Nobel Laureates having worked here. This strong research track record continues today, with 11 subjects ranked in the UK top 20 (QS rankings), 6 subjects in the top 100 globally, and Sussex being world number 1 for Development Studies. In REF2021 we were ranked 27th in the UK for Research Power, submitting research from 25 Units of Assessment: 89% of our submitted research attained the distinguished classifications of 'world-leading' (40.6%) or 'internationally excellent' (48.4%). The impact of our research garnered excellent recognition, with 93% evaluated as 'outstanding' or 'very considerable', with us being positioned 32nd in the UK for Impact. Sussex remains at the forefront of innovation and leadership, with the launch of new 12 Centres of Excellence, that continue the strive for ambitious research in subjects such as trade policy, sustainability, digital humanities, AI, and quantum technology.

As the University embarks on an exciting phase in our history with the development of our new strategy, Sussex 2035, we are now seeking a visionary Director of Research and Enterprise.

The Director of Research and Enterprise position is strategically significant, encompassing a wide range of responsibilities and functions. From liaising with academic and research communities to collaborating with professional services and operations, the successful candidate will work with the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise) to shape and deliver the University's research strategy and research support services. Your influence will extend across the entirety of our research and innovation portfolio, engaging stakeholders and fostering impactful collaborations.

In this pivotal role, we seek a seasoned professional with a proven track record of leadership in supporting world class research and innovation, endowed with exceptional management capabilities. The appointed person will be instrumental in driving initiatives to enhance our research performance and impact globally, nationally and locally.

If you are passionate about supporting and developing research and innovation across a comprehensive range of disciplines and interdisciplinary fields, and if you are an inclusive leader in your behaviours and leadership approach, with a strong commitment to academic freedom and freedom of speech, and if you thrive in an environment that values creativity, diversity, and excellence, then we invite you to explore this exciting leadership opportunity.

I look forward to receiving your expression of interest for this post. For a confidential discussion please do contact our executive search partners, Alumni Global, who will be happy to support in your application.



Professor Sasha Roseneil
Vice-Chancellor