



Job Description

This form summarises the purpose of the job and lists its key tasks. It is not a definitive list of all the tasks to be undertaken as those can be varied from time to time at the discretion of the School, in consultation with the postholder. The description of the duties and responsibilities reflect the post at the time it was drawn up, the details of which may change over time without changing the general character and purpose of the post or the level of responsibility encompassed.

Job title: Director, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment

Appointing Unit: Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment
Accountable to: Vice Chair of the Grantham Research Institute

Job Summary

The post holder will be a senior academic with research interests in Climate Change and the Environment, who has made, and will continue to make, a significant contribution to Research in this area at the highest levels, producing outstanding and internationally-recognised publications. They will provide academic and strategic leadership on policy relevant research in the development of the Institute's research agenda by identifying and engaging with topical, policy-relevant research questions.

As Director of a vibrant research community the post holder will provide support and leadership to an active research group from the PhD level, through to post-docs and senior researchers including policy oriented staff. The Director will foster collegiality among colleagues both within the Institute and across the School, and engage with others in research institutions in the UK and overseas. They will initiate and sustain links with funders and sponsors, supporting colleagues in securing research grants and project funds from a range of sources.

Responsible for the operational needs of the Institute, the Director will take responsibility for overseeing new major projects and programmes and work closely with the Senior Management Team on all aspects of management and internal governance structures. Depending on the profile of the successful candidate, they will be appointed either as Professorial Research Fellow or Professor in Practice.

The Director, along with members of the Institute, will also play a strong and ambitious part in delivering the School's new Sustainability Strategy, part of LSE's 2030 Strategic plan.

Range of Academic Activities and Responsibilities

Leadership in Research

- Providing academic and strategic leadership of the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment with policy-relevant and high quality academic research.
- Determining the overall direction of the Institute including responsibility for operational planning and overseeing new major projects and programmes in the Centre.
- Initiating and co-ordinating funding bids to develop and sustain the research and operational needs of the Institute in the medium and longer term and supporting colleagues in securing project funds and research grants.
- Active engagement in fundraising in liaison with LSE Philanthropic and Global Engagement unit



(PaGE) including cultivating and sustaining effective relationships with individual and institutional donors.

- Engaging energetically and ambitiously with the School's recently launched Sustainability Strategic Plan, leading on the Institute's contribution to the research strand in particular.
- Publishing world-leading research-based policy-relevant outputs – books, articles, policy briefs, working papers etc. - in the field of Climate Change and the environment.

Management and leadership of research Projects

- Develop and lead major research programmes in the Institute on issues of strategic importance to the climate change and environment debate.
- Co-ordinate the work of relevant research and engagement programmes within the institute, working with the Research Director and the Director, Policy and Communications.

Knowledge, Engagement and Impact

- Conducting rigorous, research-based, user-focused and policy-oriented analysis in collaboration with research and academic staff in the Institute, LSE and/or externally.
- Producing outstanding quality research-based policy-relevant outputs including academic articles, policy briefs, working papers, presentations or blogs, which contribute to the overall research programme of the Institute.
- Leading in identifying potential synergies and enhancing collaboration between the Institute and other disciplinary, thematic or regional units within LSE as well as other research organisations in the UK and overseas.
- Leading and contributing to the organisation of engagement activities with practitioners and policy audiences in the public and private sectors, nationally and internationally.
- Conducting high level engagement activities in the Climate Change and Environmental fields, such as: serving on advisory bodies providing expert opinion and commentary to external audiences and bodies, participating in senior-level networks, giving presentations to national and international events and making submissions to public inquiries or evidence sessions, to ensure that research outputs have demonstrable impact and inform the public debate.
- Leading in the development of the Institute's research agenda by identifying topical, policy-relevant research questions and effective engagement and impact activities and opportunities.
- Identifying opportunities for and generating and implementing innovative approaches to engagement and impact activities.
- Represent the Institute at public events and in interactions with the media.

Management and administration

- Managing the Institute's staff, overseeing budgets and reporting on progress
- Fostering collegiality and ensuring staff fulfil their responsibilities
- Contributing to the development and performance of colleagues through coaching, mentoring and peer support, and providing leadership on training initiatives.
- Giving leadership and oversight to recruitment campaigns.
- Overseeing the process for considering candidates for promotion, review and additional increments/merit awards with other senior colleagues.
- Engagement with the Institute Chairman, the GRI Steering Committee and the Joint Advisory Board of the two Grantham Institutes.
- Reporting to the School Committees and governance mechanisms (such as Research Committee and Annual Monitoring) on achievement and ambitions for the Institute and take part in the Research Director's Forum.
- Work with the Directors and other Departments in the School to further develop education programmes in the area of climate and environmental economics and policy.
- Engage in teaching across a range of programmes and supervise PhD students as appropriate.

**Other responsibilities may include**

- Contributing to strategic deliberations and making decisions at Institutional level, e.g. through membership of School committees.
- Occasional guest lecturing and other activity aimed at enhancing the experience of LSE students

Flexibility

To deliver services effectively, a degree of flexibility is needed, and the post holder may be required to perform work not specifically referred to above.

Equality and Diversity

To uphold the School's commitment to equality of respect and opportunity, as set out in the [Ethics Code](#), we will treat all people with dignity and respect, and ensure that no one will be treated less favourably because of their role at the School, age, sex, disability, gender identity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, or social and economic background. For the full Equity, Diversity and Inclusion policy statement, please see the [EDI website](#).

Environmental Sustainability

The post holder is required to minimise environmental impact in the performance of the role, and actively contribute to the delivery of the LSE Environmental Policy.