Discovery Theme Leader x 7 (0.2FTE for 3 years)

As part of the leadership team for the new Leeds Curriculum, this role provides an opportunity to develop your existing curriculum enhancement and leadership skills to shape the academic experience of all students through the management of one of 10 Leeds Curriculum Discovery Themes.

In recognition of the need to provide continuity in planning, developing and delivering an academically attractive and challenging portfolio of discovery modules, this role is offered to current members of staff for a period of 3 years, on a workload remission basis.

Successful candidates will be part of a team of 10 Discovery Theme Leaders and will formally take up their new appointments in August 2016, though it hoped that they will be available for occasional meetings after Easter as part of the handover process from those currently in post.

Role Description
Reflecting global challenges and the breadth of exciting disciplinary and interdisciplinary work going on at Leeds, Discovery Themes give our students the opportunity to pursue their interests and complement their core subject in a structured way by taking discovery modules. The Discovery Theme Leader will be responsible for coordinating, developing and implementing the academic vision for one of the interdisciplinary Discovery Themes listed below:

- Creating Sustainable Futures
- Enterprise and Innovation
- Language and Intercultural Understanding
- Mind and Body
- Personal and Professional Development
- Power and Conflict
- Technology and its Impacts.

The development of the Discovery Themes will be in line with the Leeds Curriculum principles and aims (see attached for the list of agreed Discovery Theme titles and definitions). Those appointed to the Theme Leader positions will work closely with colleagues delivering and developing discovery modules in relevant Schools and Institutes across the University. They will also work with other Discovery Theme Leaders to ensure that an integrated approach is taken to implementing, evaluating and further developing the Discovery Themes.

We are therefore looking for experienced academic leaders who are creative, innovative and enthusiastic about working in cross-disciplinary teams.

Discovery Theme Leaders will be responsible to the Chair of Broadening.
Information about the Discovery Themes is also available at https://leedsforlife.leeds.ac.uk/Broadening

Applications should be made to curriculum@leeds.ac.uk using a CV and supporting statement (addressing the person specification). You are asked to indicate which Discovery Theme(s) you are applying to lead.

Informal enquiries may be made to Prof Martin Levesley, tel +44(0)113 343 2110 email M.C.Levesley@leeds.ac.uk

The deadline for application is noon Monday 11th April 2016.
Main responsibilities and duties of the role

1. Implementing the Discovery Theme

- Refining the academic vision for the Discovery Theme as a means for developing and delivering distinctive, innovative and stimulating learning and teaching.
- Developing and implementing a practical plan for the medium-term development of the Discovery Theme, including details of how allocated resources will be used.
- Reviewing the portfolio of modules included in the Discovery Theme and liaising with colleagues in Schools and Faculties, and with other Discovery Theme Leaders, to identify opportunities to build and refine that portfolio.
- Clarifying and reinforcing opportunities for student academic progression within the Discovery Theme and liaising with other Discovery Theme Leaders to explore progression opportunities involving other Discovery Themes.
- Identifying opportunities for the development of new interdisciplinary modules (including blended learning modules) and working with staff and students to encourage and manage their development.
- Attending meetings of Discovery Theme Leaders to represent the Discovery Theme and participate in the joint planning, reporting, control and evaluation of the Discovery Themes.
- Managing the representation of the Discovery Theme at the two annual Discovery Theme Fairs and attending both Fairs to advise students on their choice of modules.
- Reviewing and evaluating the operation of the Discovery Theme.
- Contributing to the overarching evaluation of the Leeds Curriculum.
- Exploring opportunities to work with the new Leeds Institute for Teaching Excellence and Innovation.
- Working in partnership with students to develop the Discovery Theme.

2. Dissemination and publicity

- Acting as an ambassador for the Discovery Themes and contributing to communications within, across, and beyond the University.
- Contributing to the development of the broadening website, as it relates to the specific theme.
- Disseminating the academic vision for the specific Theme, and broadening, in general, to staff and students.
- Identifying and taking opportunities to publicise the academic vision, aims and achievements of the Leeds Curriculum Discovery themes in relevant national and international publications and conferences.
Person Specification

**Essential requirements**

**Experience:**
- significant teaching experience within relevant discipline areas
- experience of research/scholarship, with involvement in and awareness of, relevant research/scholarship agendas
- experience of leading change in learning and teaching at Programme/School/Faculty level
- experience of working in partnership with students to enhance the student experience
- experience of module/programme development.

**Skills/Knowledge:**
- ability to work constructively in a multi-disciplinary team and a commitment to interdisciplinarity
- excellent planning, organisational, communication and interpersonal skills
- ability and willingness to demonstrate initiative and to take responsibility.

**Personal characteristics:**
- breadth of academic interest across Faculties
- a calm, constructive approach to problem solving
- credibility with academic colleagues
- a flexible approach and an ability to balance competing time demands
- an imaginative and creative approach to curriculum design.

The ideal post holder would have a blend of pedagogic and interpersonal/communication skills such that s/he is able to work effectively alongside academic and professional colleagues from a range of disciplines.

**Desirable requirements**

**Educational standard/qualifications:**
- qualification(s) in teaching at HE level.

**Experience:**
- managing curriculum development projects in Higher Education
- involvement in Faculty/School Student Education Committees.
Discovery Themes and Sub-Themes – February 2016

Theme: Creating Sustainable Futures
Sub-themes:
- Science for sustainability
- Managing sustainability: About sustainability
- Managing Sustainability: Skills for sustainable futures
- Society and sustainability: About sustainability
- Society and Sustainability: Skills for sustainable futures
- Getting Involved in Sustainability.

Theme: Enterprise and Innovation
Sub-themes:
- Enterprise, Entrepreneurship & Society
- Enterprise and management
- Support Systems
- Innovation.

Theme: Ethics, Religion and Law
Sub-themes:
- Ethics
- Religion
- Law
- Crime, Sin and Vice
- Pluralism, Toleration and Diversity
- Business
- Gender and Sexuality
- Politics and Public Policy
- Professions and Professionalism
- Environmental Issues.

Theme: Exploring the Sciences
Sub-themes:
- People and Planet
- Science and Health
- Scientific Thought and Methodology
- Modelling, Making Sense of Data and Analytical Thinking
- The Universal Language of Science Logical Reasoning and Truth
- The Physical Environment
- Microbes, Plants, Animals and Evolution
- Space, Sound, Energy, Light and Matter.

Theme: Language and Intercultural Understanding
Sub-themes:
- Learning a Language
- Understanding Language(s)
- Culture
- History and Society.
Theme: Media, Culture and Creativity
Sub-themes:
- Media and Technology
- Film and Photography
- Art and Design
- Heritage
- Culture and Critique
- Literature
- Music
- Creative Practice
- Theatre and Performance.

Theme: Mind and Body
Sub-themes:
- The Art and Science of Mind and Body
- Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds
- Mind, Body and Society.

Theme: Personal and Professional Development
Sub-themes:
- Applied Languages
- Business and Enterprise
- Career Planning and Placement
- Coaching, Leadership and Sport
- Creative Development
- Digital Literacy
- Education and Teaching
- Numeracy and Applied Maths
- Research Collaboration and Public Engagement.

Theme: Power and Conflict
Sub-themes:
- Governmental and Institutional
- Personal and Inter-personal
- Cultural, Popular Cultural and Performative
- Social and Societal Studies
- Theories of Power and Conflict.

Theme: Technology and its Impacts
Sub-themes:
- History and Culture
- Roles and Risks
- Globalization and Environment
- Performance and Creativity
- Technology in Practice.