



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

**Network Research Manager – Network Plus, LITAC, School of Design,
Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures**



Salary: Grade 7 (£39,105 - £46,485) p.a. per annum

Reference: AHCDE1298

Location: Main University Campus (with scope for hybrid working). We are open to flexible working arrangements.

1.0FTE, fixed term until 30th July 2025 to complete a specific task or time limited work.



Network Research Manager (PCT)

Leeds Institute of Textiles and Colour (LITAC) School of Design, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures

Are you looking for a challenging and varied role which enables you to work across a diverse range of activities and with a variety of people? Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge with a good understanding of fashion and textiles including current challenges facing the sector? Are you a problem solver and a decision maker, able to contribute to a wide range of tasks both operational and strategic? Do you have excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to work effectively with a wide range of stakeholders?

You will work closely with the PCT Convenor, Prof. Stephen Russell, members of the Network Plus academic team, the three sub-network Network Coordinators and other members of the LITAC Operational Management team. The role is line managed by LITAC's Associate Director. You will assist with the effective delivery of the Programme Coordination Team's vision and remit ensuring that all three sub-networks operate synergistically and activity is efficiently coordinated across sub-networks and effectively augmented by stand-alone PCT initiatives. You will have excellent organisational and interpersonal skills with the ability to build effective working relationships with different stakeholders.

You will have a PhD in a relevant discipline, or equivalent track record of high quality research publications, and excellent organisational skills and experience.



What does the role entail?

As the Network Research Manager (PCT) your main duties will include:

- Working with the PCT Convener and LITAC's Associate Director to ensure the successful delivery of the Network Plus programme, with responsibility for the management and development of PCT activities.
- Leading on Knowledge Exchange activities for the PCT, with a focus on wider stakeholder community engagement and learning. You will work as part of the wider Network Plus team including both PCT and sub-network researchers to further fashion and textiles sectoral knowledge and learning. This 'Knowledge Exchange Lead' role is one of three research posts operational across the PCT.
- As Knowledge Exchange Lead, a core engagement element of your role, you will be expected to leverage PCT activity to generate and pursue original research ideas in aligned subject areas.
- You will communicate / present research results through publication or other recognised forms of output, this will include preparing papers for publication in leading international journals and independently writing reports.
- As the Network Research Manager (PCT) you will work closely with the PCT's 'Evaluation Lead' and 'Early Career Researcher Lead' staff members to ensure effective communications, reporting and added value for all Network stakeholders. Collaborative research and publications across the PCT research posts will be encouraged.
- Representing the Network Plus / PCT externally and internally, and acting as the PCT's key operational contact when working with colleagues across the University of Leeds and Network Plus partners.
- Responsibility for contributing to a wide range of Network Plus activities, including financial management, dissemination activity and external funder reporting.
- Establishing strong and effective working relationships with key academic and support staff across the University, as well as external stakeholders to ensure effective Network Plus delivery;
- Supporting the delivery of effective Network Plus communication and liaison with academic, professional staff and external partners. You will help to steer the PCT's communication, engagement and impact plan. Working closely with both the PCT Communications and Events Officer and the LITAC Communications and Engagement Officer you will ensure compliance with University & NERC communication policies and avoid duplication of effort across the Network.



- Developing and maintaining a strong network across LITAC, the School of Design and the wider Network partners to encourage collaborative working to maximise the Network's impact.
- Supporting organisation of the PCT's formal administration; to include agenda preparation, development of formal papers, and follow-up actions to ensure that the PCT runs smoothly and maximises value across the three sub-networks.
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development and acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues as appropriate.
- Contributing to the research culture of LITAC / the School of Design, where appropriate and encouraging cross-Network / sub-network research engagement.
- Working collaboratively at all times as part of a proactive, self-managed professional team to ensure the Network Plus is effectively supported to a high level.

The Programme Coordination Team (PCT) is being convened by the University of Leeds, representing the three fashion and textile sub-networks who have recently been awarded funding through the UKRI Circular Fashion and Textile Programme: Network Plus. The PCT team will coordinate activity and provide connective support across all three sub-networks. Based within the LITAC Operational Team at the University of Leeds the role of Network Research Manager will report to the PCT Convenor Prof. Stephen Russell and the PCT Strategic Advisory Board.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

What will you bring to the role?

As PCT Network Manager you will have / be:

- A first degree and PhD (or equivalent track record of high quality research publications) in fashion and textiles or a closely allied discipline.
- A strong background in and understanding of fashion and textiles research and current challenges facing the sector.
- Demonstrated experience of conducting research and delivering outcomes to a high standard and within fixed deadlines.
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines and work effectively under pressure.



- Outstanding oral and written communication skills and the ability to convey complex concepts clearly, effectively and in an engaging style to a range of audiences including industry and other external organisations.
- Proven ability to manage competing demands effectively, responsibly and without close support.
- Excellent interpersonal and influencing skills and the ability to build credibility and rapport in order to deal effectively with people at all levels, within and external to the organisation.
- Enthusiastic and self-motivated with evidence of being able to work independently demonstrating excellent organisational skills and ability to prioritise your workload to meet short deadlines as well as supporting and working effectively within the wider team.
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

You may also have:

- Knowledge of the wider landscape of communications and publishing within the academic and/or public sector.
- A track record of successful, high quality, publications within fashion and textiles or associated creative industries.
- Awareness of research and innovation within an academic environment.
- Experience of liaising with national and international commercial industries.
- Experience of liaising with local, regional, national government representatives or public funding bodies.



How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information page. Applications should be submitted by **23.59** (UK time) on the advertised closing date.

Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

Mrs Susan Rainton

Associate Director, LITAC

Email: s.rainton@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Working at Leeds

We are a campus-based community and regular interaction with campus is an expectation of all roles in line with academic and service needs and the requirements of the role. We are also open to discussing flexible working arrangements. To find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area visit our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

Our University

As an international research-intensive university, we welcome students and staff from all walks of life. We foster an inclusive environment where all can flourish and prosper, and we are proud of our strong commitment to student education. Within the Faculty/School of School of Design we are dedicated to diversifying our community and we welcome the unique contributions that individuals can bring, and particularly encourage applications from, but not limited to Black, Asian, people who belong to a minority ethnic community; people who identify as LGBT+; and disabled people. Candidates will always be selected based on merit and ability.



Information for disabled candidates

Information for disabled candidates, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found under the 'Accessibility' heading on our [How to Apply](#) information page or by getting in touch by [emailing HR via hr@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:hr@leeds.ac.uk).

Criminal record information

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

A criminal record check is not required for this position. However, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information page.

Salary Requirements of the Skilled Worker Visa Route

Please note that this post may be suitable for sponsorship under the Skilled Worker visa route but first-time applicants might need to qualify for salary concessions. For more information please visit: www.gov.uk/skilled-worker-visa.

For research and academic posts, we will consider eligibility under the Global Talent visa. For more information please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/global-talent>.

