



Secondment Opportunity

Job Title: Research Associate Secondment – Higher Education and Innovation

Department: Higher Education and Innovation team, Greater London Authority

Location: City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London SE1 2AA

Duration: The placement is available part or full-time, starting in September or October for the duration of 6 months.

Context

The strength of London's world-class Higher Education and research base is key to the productivity of London, and the UK as a whole. The Mayor of London's response to the Government's Industrial Strategy supports the need for research and business collaboration so that London businesses, universities and research organisations can continue to work together to preserve and promote economic success, locally and nationally.

Main purpose of the job

The main purpose of the role is to ensure that Higher Education is centre stage of the Mayor of London's Industrial Strategy and to identify practical ways in which university-business collaboration can be increased to maximise innovation and business growth across London's key sectors (see: <https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/economic-development-strategy-for-london-2017.pdf>).

Duties and responsibilities:

You will work as part of a multi-disciplinary team, helping to identify practical actions for working with London's Higher Education institutions and engaging with key business sectors.

Duties will include:

- Supporting the development and delivery of the Mayor's Civic Innovation Challenge¹, through engaging London HEIs in Mayoral challenges and maximising the opportunities for R&D collaboration with London's tech start-up community.
- Working with London's Local Economic Action Partnership (LEAP) in collaboration with GLA policy leads to identify the role for London HEIs in the delivery of London's Industrial Strategy.
- Working with key GLA policy leads across science and technology sectors to identify opportunities for increased university-business interaction to maximise innovation, entrepreneurship and business growth outcomes.

Experience and Skills required:

- Holds or working towards a PhD in a Social Science discipline.

¹ The Mayor's Civic Innovation Challenge aims to link innovation to London challenges across inequality, climate change and an ageing population. The programme supports early testing and co-design between the innovator and public and private sector markets (such as corporates or local authorities). The Greater London Authority is keen to ensure London's R&D strengths are integrated into the programme to support the development and commercialisation of the innovation.

- Excellent knowledge of the Higher Education sector and the UK Industrial Strategy.
- An understanding of the literature on innovation policy.
- Excellent presentational skills, including demonstrable ability to tailor content and style to different audiences, including those outside of academia.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills including the ability to write clearly and concisely, and to present to both academic and non-academic audiences.
- Good interpersonal skills, including the ability to work as part of a team

Funding

UCL has funding available through the HEIF Knowledge Exchange Fund to support research and students who would be interested in undertaking a placement, subject to eligibility and certain conditions.

Eligibility

Policy placements are open to registered UCL staff and PhD students. Students who are successfully awarded a placement would generally be expected to interrupt their studentship for the duration of the post and will be funded by the placement award during this time.

Candidates must be in a position to return to UCL for a period of six months following the placement to be eligible to apply.

To apply please email b.gascoyne@ucl.ac.uk with a cover letter explaining your suitability for the placement (max 1 page) and short CV.

For more information about the role and working with the GLA, applicants are welcome to contact Catherine Glossop, Principal Policy Officer for Innovation and Knowledge, by emailing Catherine.Glossop@london.gov.uk.