Senior Lecturer / Lecturer in Cyber Security

Permanent - Full time
Grade AC3/AC4
Walton Hall, Milton Keynes

The Role

We are seeking candidates with a strong grounding in cyber security, with specific focus in the following areas:

- Digital forensics and Forensic Computing
- Cryptography and Software security
- Offensive Security (e.g., Malware Analysis, Intrusion Detection, Ethical hacking and related techniques)
- Information Security Management (e.g., Data Security, Privacy, Laws and Regulations)

We aim to appoint an inspiring and innovative teacher and researcher in cyber security, who enjoys developing novel approaches to teaching and are effective in working collaboratively with colleagues.

Since its inception, The Open University (OU) has focussed on innovation in teaching and learning, with a track record of providing, inspiring, world-leading programmes of higher education for students who learn at a distance. Building on award-winning initiatives such as the OpenSTEM Labs, the University is deepening its commitment to delivering the highest quality teaching through a significant, student-centred, investment programme. This will provide rewarding academic career paths that are focused on world-class teaching and research, and will be aimed at strengthening our leadership in the field of digital innovation. As part of this programme, and recognising the critical global importance of addressing the cyber security skills gap, we are building a team of academic staff in the School of Computing and Communications at The Open University focussed on this area.

If successful, you will join this team to deliver transformative new approaches to teaching and learning in relation to cyber security, contributing to our leadership of the “University Learners” theme of the Institute of Coding (IoC - https://instituteofcoding.open.ac.uk/), and complementing the school’s internationally leading research in the field.

Key Duties

Teaching

- Actively contribute to the design and delivery of a high quality cyber-security curriculum at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, including our degree apprenticeship programme.
- Be an active member of the cyber security education team in the School of Computing & Communications and help deliver innovative approaches to teaching cyber security.
- Promoting employability and career progression for our students
- Engage actively across the School with the OU’s strategy to deliver a world-leading student experience
Research, scholarship and knowledge exchange

- Pursue high quality research in cyber security and its pedagogy.
- Enhance our links with industry to enable collaborations and knowledge exchange
- Attract external income to the School
- Contribute to the vibrant scholarship environment in the School

General

- Act as an ambassador, both internally and externally, for the academic excellence of the School, Faculty and University.
- Take responsibility for administrative and/or other academic duties as required by the Head of School.
- Contribute to the outreach activities of the School, Faculty and University.
Person Specification

Skills and experience

Essential:

- A PhD, or substantial experience, in an area related to cyber security
- Ability to contribute to the teaching of cyber security, with a particular focus on digital forensics; secure software engineering; information security management, security testing, cryptography and ethical hacking.
- The ability to work innovatively, adaptively and responsively in multidisciplinary teams.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, and the ability to collaborate effectively in multidisciplinary teams.
- Excellent written and spoken English skills, together with the ability to offer and receive constructive criticism.
- Ability to plan and organise work to agreed deadlines.
- Commitment to the aims, ethos and values of the Open University

Commensurate with career stage:

- Demonstrable expertise in an area of cyber security with a good understanding of how the discipline is developing.
- Ability to undertake high quality research and produce research/scholarly publications in cyber security.
- An understanding of the educational and study needs of students, particularly those studying part-time at a distance.
- Evidence of, or the potential to deliver, innovative teaching.

Desirable:

- Experience of producing distance/online learning materials and assessment materials.
- Experience of supporting students in a distance/online learning setting.
- Evidence of successful research student supervision.
- Relevant professional qualifications, such as CISSP, CEH, etc.

Commensurate with stage of career:

- Membership of professional bodies including Fellowship (or higher) of the UK Higher Education Academy or equivalent experience/standing in the UK or another country
- Ability to develop new collaborative partnerships within the University and with external organisations.
- Successful experience of gaining external funding
The interview panel will be chaired by:
   Diane Butler, Associate Dean – Academic Excellence (To Be Confirmed)

The other members of the interview panel will be:
   Arosha K. Bandara, Head of School – Computing & Communications
   Chitra Balakrishna, Senior Lecturer in Cyber Security Education
   + 2 others To Be Confirmed

The interviews will take place on:
   To be confirmed but expected to take place early October 2019.

The selection process for this post will include:
   A short, specified teaching activity to be completed before the interview date

   A presentation of aspects of your teaching, research and/or other professional activities to
   members of the School.

   The teaching activity and presentation will be discussed with you as part of the interview
   process.
About the Unit

Faculty of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics

The Faculty of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) is comprised:

- School of Computing & Communications
- School of Environment, Earth & Ecosystem Sciences
- School of Engineering & Innovation
- School of Life, Health & Chemical Sciences
- School of Mathematics & Statistics
- School of Physical Sciences
- Knowledge Media Institute
- Deanery including teams supporting Curriculum, Research and Enterprise, Laboratory Infrastructure and Faculty Administration

“We aspire to be world leaders in inclusive, innovative and high impact STEM teaching and research, equipping learners, employers and society with the capabilities to meet tomorrow’s challenges”

The Faculty of STEM consists of 2500 staff including 1,800 Associate Lecturers. The Faculty delivers over 185 modules across undergraduate and postgraduate curriculum, supporting nearly 19,000 students (full time equivalents) which is 29% of the OU total.

The Faculty generates more research income (circa £17M) than any other Faculty in the University, supported by a comprehensive laboratory infrastructure.

We are proud of our distinctive values and capabilities underpinning our aspiration:

We are inclusive:
- We transform people’s lives, ensuring STEM education is openly accessible to many thousands of students from diverse backgrounds – our students express high satisfaction with their study experience.
- We engage the public in exciting citizen science and engineering, including through free open educational resources, multi-platform broadcasting, outreach to inspire the next generation and with programmes to encourage more women into STEM.

We are highly innovative:
- We are at the forefront of innovative developments in teaching practical science and engineering at a distance, through simulated and remote access laboratories and practical experimentation.
- Our high quality teaching and curriculum are informed by world-leading research, strong links with professional bodies and communities of practitioners, as well as by scholarship focused on continuously improving our STEM pedagogy.

We deliver significant social and economic impact:
- We provide STEM higher education at a scale and reach unsurpassed in the UK, with a sizeable international reach and further growth potential.
- We inject transferable STEM skills and knowledge direct into the workplace for immediate employee and employer benefit, as students combine study while working.
• The employability value of our courses is underpinned by accreditation from leading STEM Professional Bodies and Learned Societies, as well as partnerships and sponsorship with leading employers.

• Our high quality, applied and academically relevant teaching and research addresses real-world issues, delivering impact for industry and society, including addressing pressing STEM skill-shortages across the UK.

School of Computing & Communications

The School of Computing and Communications has around 80 academic and research staff, and is home for a number of visiting researchers and full-time and part-time research students.

Our vision is to empower our students and wider society through life-changing learning and excellent research in computing & communications.

We teach a comprehensive range of undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications. Most of our students are studying part-time, and they study at different rates. We have the equivalent of over 4600 full-time students registered for our undergraduate and postgraduate degrees across the UK and Europe, and approximately 30 PhD students studying both full and part-time. We have a degree apprenticeship in Digital Technology Solutions in England. In Scotland we have undergraduate degree apprenticeships in Software Engineering, Cybersecurity and IT Management for Business, and an MSc apprenticeship in Cybersecurity. We also have a degree apprenticeship in Software Engineering in Wales.

We pioneered an online Introduction to Cyber Security MOOC (http://bit.ly/1pMMKhk), hosted on Futurelearn, which has been studied by over 200,000 learners worldwide. We also have extensive Open Educational Resources hosted by OpenLearn and have a robotics lab funded by HEFCE.

We aim for, and achieve, international excellence in research and teaching. The OU’s Computing research performed strongly in the Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014) assessment, with 75% of outputs rated world-leading or internationally-excellent, and an excellent research environment (100% rated world-leading or internationally-excellent).

We focus on the use of technology to enhance people’s lives. Our research is:

• Empowering: placing people at the centre
• Situated: focusing as much on context as on technology
• Interdisciplinary: creatively crossing discipline borders to give fresh perspectives and solutions.

Our strong sense of collegiality and community continues to shape and direct the interdisciplinary approaches used throughout our work. The School of Computing and Communications holds the Athena SWAN Bronze Award and is committed to transforming gender equality. We offer a highly flexible working environment and working practices which are family-friendly.