Job Description – Senior Lecturer, Policing Organisation and Practice (16863)

Reports to: Director of Policing Organisation and Practice
Location: Milton Keynes (the role will be contractually based in Milton Keynes with the expectation to be on campus at least 3 days a week)

About the role

The Open University is expanding its teaching, research and scholarship in Policing. As part of this expansion we are developing a suite of undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes in this area that will be delivered nationally.

As part of our ongoing expansion we are looking to appoint two permanent Senior Lectureships in Policing Organisation and Practice. Our approach to policing is interdisciplinary, we therefore invite applications from a broad spectrum of academic expertise/disciplines. We particularly encourage applications from those who have expertise in one or more of the following areas related to policing (other areas will be considered):

- Policing vulnerability
- Police leadership, governance and accountability
- Crime and society
- Policing digital and online crime
- Counter Terrorism and Organised Crime

The position offers the opportunity to be part of a vibrant, interdisciplinary research and scholarship culture and community, and to develop expertise in online and distance learning.

The appointee will be part of Centre for Policing Research and Learning (CPRL) - a collaborative partnership between the Open University and 21 police agencies across the UK, from large territorial forces (e.g. Metropolitan Police Service, Greater Manchester, Thames Valley) to smaller forces (e.g. Gwent, Dorset, Gloucestershire) and including specialist police agencies (e.g. National Crime Agency and British Transport Police).

The candidate(s) will need to demonstrate experience of high-quality teaching, writing and learning in Higher Education and an aptitude for academic leadership, including being able to take on responsibility for team leadership as required. The candidate will also have a record of high-quality research/scholarship outputs and impact in their area of expertise related to policing.

You will have excellent communication and interpersonal skills. You will also have experience in innovative ways of working alongside practitioners and an ability and willingness to work in non-standard ways. In addition, you will have experience, and/or an interest in, practice-based pedagogy, blended and online teaching and learning and action learning.

The successful candidate will be required to:
- Contribute to our developing policing degree programmes by authoring module material and playing a leadership role by chairing one or more of our module teams;
- Create synergies between research and/or scholarship, teaching and knowledge exchange
- Help develop and maintain strong links with police organisations nationally and internationally
- Contribute to the development of part-time tutors around the UK and the support of students
• Conduct research and/or scholarship which will contribute to the programme of work and enhance the profile of the Centre for Policing Research and Learning, Department and Faculty
• Be responsive to technology-enabled developments within the OU and contribute to/share innovative practice
• Play a full part in the academic life of the Policing Organisation and Practice team and wider Faculty of Business and Law, which is located on The Open University's Walton Hall campus in Milton Keynes
• Support and mentor team members where required
• Serve as requested on internal and external committees

Skills and experience

Essential:

• A Masters degree in a relevant discipline
• A doctorate in a policing relevant field, in a related area or equivalent professional experience
• Experience of teaching HE students
• Clear evidence of the capability to structure and write teaching materials in an accurate and accessible manner
• An interest in online teaching, virtual learning environments and innovative pedagogy
• Experience of module leadership in HE
• A commitment to distance learning and the need for supporting students from a wide range of backgrounds
• An understanding of the policy and practice context of UK policing organisations
• A record of working with UK police organisations in a research and/or teaching context
• A commitment to conducting high quality research and/or scholarship, evidenced by current and/or planned projects and research outputs
• A record of several high-quality research publications, suitable for submission for REF 2021, or a track record of high-quality scholarship outputs and impact in the area of higher education and work-based learning
• Experience of leadership in teaching and/or research
• Ability to motivate and support teams to achieve tight deadlines
• Excellent demonstrable communication skills, oral written and electronic.
• A commitment to and understanding of equal opportunities.

Desirable:

• Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy or PG CERT
• Experience of applying for grant funding
• Supervision of students at Masters and/or PhD level
• Evidence of working as a distance learning tutor
• Evidence of HEI/police research collaboration