

Candidate Information

Position:	Head of School
School/Department:	School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Reference:	26/113234
Closing Date:	Monday 20 April 2026
Salary:	Salary will be commensurate with stage of career, aligned with the professorial salary scale.
Anticipated Interview Date:	Monday 1 June 2026

THE ROLE:

We are looking for a Visionary Leader to for Strategic Change.

We are seeking a Head of School who is a transformative leader capable of evolving the schools exceptional research foundations and dynamic curriculum through innovation and aspiration. You will be responsible for the development and delivery of a dynamic, cohesive and ambitious strategic plan for the school centred on a vision of inventing tomorrow today! The ideal candidate will possess a deep understanding of the changing education sector and, complement our existing research themes and introduce a new pedagogical perspective Networking and Influencing skills with be exemplar with the ability to maximise opportunities to bolster robust industrial partnerships.

You will have the skills to inspire people, influence cultural change and guide, support and embed an ethos where everyone in the school strives for academic excellence and has the opportunity to maximise their potential As a member of the Faculty Management Committee the Head of School reports to the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Engineering and Physical Sciences).

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Provide academic and strategic leadership and management in the school and be the School's advocate within the Faculty and University; They will establish and maintain an environment of excellence and collaboration that enables education, research, enterprise, internationalisation and scholarship to flourish. They will manage and monitor the progress of the School against agreed key performance indicators and will be responsible and accountable for all operations within the School, ensuring the effective management of all aspects devolved to Schools, to include academic, financial, HR and health and safety aspects.
2. As a full member of the Faculty Management Committee, the Head of School will take a pan-Faculty perspective, contributing to wider operational and strategic planning. In addition to leading on initiatives as delegated by the Pro-Vice Chancellor the Head of School will contribute to the development of Faculty and University strategies and act as a broker between School, Faculty and University in promoting collaboration in research, innovation and education.
3. The Head of School will oversee the planning and delivery of the schools' education, research and outreach programmes and ensure that resources are available. They will lead the delivery of the strategic plan within the school and manage and monitor the progress of the school against agreed key performance indicators, including being accountable for budgets allocated to the School through the budgetary framework. They will oversee the workload of academic staff to ensure that all staff can deliver and contribute fully to the school's research, education, internationalisation and other objectives.
4. Develop and promote links and activities with external stakeholders, Working closely with the engineering and computer science profession ensuring that the undergraduate (and postgraduate) programmes satisfy the requirements of the industry and current and future skills requirements, The School has a unique position and responsibility in developing Northern Ireland's, cyber and AI capabilities and as such the role collaborates extensively with the three University colleges of Queen's on the island of Ireland.
5. The Head of School will oversee a comprehensive people strategy which supports the development of high calibre academic and professional support staff to the school, with the proactive development of future leaders and succession planning as appropriate. They will advocate our Institutional Values and promote a positive organisational culture through effective communication and fair and equitably implementation of our people policies.

6. The Head of School is also expected to maintain their research activities and evolve their academic profile as a professor of international standing. Promoting research led teaching, the role is required to contribute as appropriate to curriculum delivery and promote excellence in teaching.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. A Professor of significant academic distinction in a discipline relevant to the school whose profile reflects evidence of:
 - An international reputation for excellence in their discipline evidenced through a sustained record of internationally excellent research outputs in leading journals or publishing houses.
 - A sustained record of successful PhD supervision and grant awards from competitive, peer-reviewed bodies and invitations to speak at major national and international conferences.
 - Research activity leading to significant impact on industry and society in general.
 - Sustained leadership of learning and teaching or related initiatives, addressing key strategic priorities e.g. student retention, student experience, student employability, improving assessment, technological innovation etc.
 - Effective people leader with a proven track record of developing colleagues and promoting a diverse and collaborative working culture.
2. A strategic thinker and proven track record as a Leader of Change initiatives.
3. A proven track record of the successful financial management, including forecasting, managing budgets and risk in a relevant academic unit, including large scale projects.
4. Demonstrable experience of successfully delivering initiatives while fostering alignment and engagement across teams.
5. Strong stakeholder management ability evidenced through effective networking and influencing with people and organisations at all levels.
6. A creative, innovative thinker with an eye to the future, including being a leader in digitisation in teaching.
7. Advanced interpersonal and communication skills to build and maintain excellent internal and external relationships and ability to negotiate and influence others.
8. Previous contribution and commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion.

For further information including how to apply please visit <https://candidates.perrettlaver.com/vacancies/> quoting the reference 8307 or contact Lucy Roper at lucy.roper@perrettlaver.com. The closing date for all applications is now Monday 20 April 2026.