



<b>Job Title</b>	Associate Professor in Product Design and Innovative Design
<b>School/Department</b>	Department of Mechanical, Materials and Manufacturing Engineering
<b>Job Level</b>	UNNC Scale B Level 6
<b>Job Family</b>	Research and Teaching
<b>Contract Status</b>	This post is available from April 2025 and will be offered on a fixed-term contract with the University of Nottingham Ningbo China for a period of five years
<b>Location</b>	University of Nottingham Ningbo China
<b>Hours of Work</b>	Irregular working hours
<b>Responsible to</b>	Head of Department of Mechanical, Materials and Manufacturing Engineering

### Purpose of role:

The role holder will be expected to make a significant leadership impact within their academic unit and in the research and teaching areas of Product Design and Innovative Design.

The role holder will participate in the Department of Mechanical, Materials and Manufacturing Engineering academic unit level organisation, management and strategic planning and will also contribute to the University’s strategic planning processes. He or she will act as principal investigator on major research projects in the field of Product Design and Innovative Design and will identify opportunities for the development of new research projects.

The role holder will take responsibility for the quality of the design of Product Design and Manufacture programme to maintain the high teaching standards and contribute generally to the development of teaching, teaching methods and assessments in the Mechanical, Materials and Manufacturing Engineering academic unit.

The role holder may have line management responsibilities including the responsibility for the professional development of the Mechanical, Materials and Manufacturing Engineering team and contribute to the overall administration of the Department.

	<b>Main responsibilities</b> (Primary accountabilities and responsibilities expected to fulfil the role)	<b>% time per year</b>
1	Plan and lead the development and implementation of research strategy within Product Design and Innovative Design research area(s). Develop and communicate a clear vision of the academic unit/University’s strategic direction and ensure the delivery of University strategic plans within area of responsibility.	5%
2	Through original, recent and published research of international excellence, maintain and further develop an international reputation as a research leader in a major subject area. Where appropriate lead research and collaborative partnerships with other educational institutions or other external bodies and promote and market the work of the academic unit.	10%

3	Lead and support funding bids that develop and sustain research support for the specialist area and advance the reputation of the academic unit and the University.	10%
4	Lead the process of acquiring, analysing and interpreting research data and information, ensuring appropriate techniques, approaches, models and methods are selected, developed or devised for the purpose.	10%
5	Organise national and/or international workshops to further disseminate and explain research findings.	5%
6	Contribute to and/or lead the development of the curriculum in own area, demonstrate innovative/leading edge approaches to learning that achieve the educational standards of the School/ Department and, where appropriate, professional body. Disseminate best practise in teaching and learning methodologies within and outside the university.	10%
7	Deliver lectures and provide advice, instruction and examination in the subject at all levels, from undergraduate teaching to advising on post-doctoral research.	10%
8	Provide intellectual leadership of the School's academic community, providing direction and mentoring for less experienced colleagues. Lead, appoint, manage and develop individuals and/or teams to deliver the research and/or teaching plans. Foster inter-disciplinary team working to develop team spirit and team coherence.	8%
9	Lead and develop internal and external networks to foster collaboration, share information and ideas and promote the subject and the University.	7%
10	Chair committees and participate in University decision making and governance and contribute to the development of academic policies across the University.	3%
11	Responsible for the management and resolution of all student and/or team issues drawing on specialist advice and support as required.	4%
12	Responsible for the organisation and deployment of resources within area of responsibility.	4%
13	Contribute to the running and strategic direction and development of the University through designated committees or project activities.	3%
14	Participate on national and international bodies; act as an advisor to government and in any other external advisory capacity. Where appropriate contribute to the development of higher education processes in the UK.	3%
15	Participate in training and staff development events as trainer or trainee as appropriate. Maintain appropriate professional development, expertise and awareness. Undertake other tasks and responsibilities as may reasonably be required.	8%



## Person specification

	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
<b>Skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Excellent oral and written communication skills in English</li><li>▪ High level analytical capability to facilitate conceptual thinking, innovation and creativity</li><li>▪ Proven skills in coaching and developing others in best practice techniques.</li><li>▪ Proven ability to lead, motivate, develop and manage the performance of a team.</li><li>▪ Proven ability to plan and lead the delivery of research and teaching programmes, and to develop sources of funding.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Skills in pastoral care and motivating students at all levels.</li></ul>
<b>Knowledge and experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ In depth knowledge of Product Design and Manufacture, and Mechanical Manufacturing specialisms to enable the development of new knowledge, innovation and understanding in the field.</li><li>▪ Established and widely recognised excellence and reputation in the Product Design and Manufacture specialist subject area amongst peers nationally and internationally.</li><li>▪ Extensive experience in leading the design of research techniques and methods.</li><li>▪ Extensive experience and capability to act as a role model in the areas of research, and teaching in higher education sector, as appropriate.</li><li>▪ Previous experience and success in raising capital in support of new business projects, management of investment funds, grants and contracts.</li><li>▪ Previous success in transferring research results to commercial professional or other practical use.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ An understanding of University management systems and the wider higher education environment.</li><li>▪ Significant record of supervision of postgraduate students on industrial or knowledge transfer projects.</li><li>▪ Previous leadership experience.</li></ul>
<b>Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ PhD supported by extensive and high level research and teaching experience in relevant area.</li><li>▪ Higher education teaching qualification or equivalent.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Membership of a professional body where appropriate</li></ul>



Statutory, legal or special requirements		
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## Expectations and behaviours

The University has developed a clear set of core expectations and behaviours that our people should be demonstrating in their work, and as ambassadors of the University's strategy, vision and values. The following are essential to the role:

- Valuing people** Understands that it is essential to provide a structure that people can thrive in. Knows how to communicate with people to create a healthy working environment and get the best out of people.
- Taking ownership** Communicates vision clearly, providing direction and focus. Knows how to create a productive environment where people are inspired and can work cross-departmentally in partnership.
- Forward thinking** Has the ambition to be a pioneer in own area, anticipating the future change, needs and challenges. Knows how to innovate within their work context and champions others to be inspired to be part of this ambition
- Professional pride** Keeps up to date on latest thinking, trends and work practices. Supports team to be thought leaders; willing to challenge if obstacles get in the way.
- Always inclusive** Establishes far reaching partnerships, well beyond own area across a broad range of networks. Understand role to pay due regard to the needs of the whole community.



## Key relationships with others

