



UNIVERSITY OF
DERBY

derby.ac.uk

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

Candidate Information Pack

Welcome

I am delighted that you are considering applying for this role at the University of Derby.

At Derby we have worked to build a powerful regional university that addresses the needs of our students, the region and beyond, and an institution which is embarking on an ambitious period of growth to take the University forward to its future.

Our 2018-2030 Strategic Framework, launched in June 2018, signalled a new chapter for our University, providing staff and stakeholders with clarity over our direction of travel and raising the bar in terms of our institutional ambitions. Embedding high performance in everything we do has seen a step change in the way we operate, one that is generating strong results and outcomes despite the challenges we have faced during the pandemic.

2025 is a key milestone in the lifecycle of the Strategic Framework, so to assure delivery of our strategic plans and ambitions, we have recently made some changes to the University's Senior Leadership Groups. These now comprise a new University Executive Board (UEB), Vice-Chancellor's Executive (VCE) and Delivery and Operations Leadership Group (DOL). In addition, these changes are designed in response to the external environment, the need continuously to reflect and improve on performance, and our commitment to ensuring high standards of integrity, transparency and governance.

As a result, our new University Librarian will be joining us at a time of real momentum and positive change, where we look to build on our teaching excellence, enhance the student experience, continue to grow our innovation and research profile, and ensure Derby has impact and influence regionally, nationally and internationally.

Furthermore, the civic role we play, and the importance of the University as an anchor institution, remains stronger than ever, with our commitment to working in partnership to improve the health, education and wellbeing of our city and county being reaffirmed through the development of a Civic University Agreement.

We are an ambitious university, on an upwards trajectory, and therefore need a University Librarian with the knowledge, experience and leadership qualities to drive forward a high performing team, one that puts our students, and the experience they have at Derby, at the heart of everything it does.

Thank you for your interest and time.

Professor Keith McLay
Provost, Learning and Teaching



The University

Located in the heart of England, we build on our region’s heritage of innovation to provide industry-relevant, expert teaching at all levels.

The University of Derby is a modern, innovative education provider that achieved its University status in 1992. Teaching at the Derby site actually dates back to 1851, when it was a Diocesan Institution for training teachers, so we have over 160 years of expertise in education.

We have since become a University of first choice for students who want a supportive, aspirational environment where they can equip themselves for the career they choose. Our significant investment in world class facilities is building on our reputation for student-focused real-world learning in an increasingly competitive sector.

We want everyone to receive the high-quality education they deserve, regardless of age, background or location. We were named University of the Year at the UK Social Mobility Awards

2020 and Higher Education Institution of the Year at the 2020 NEON (National Education Opportunities Network) Awards. And we have won the Guardian University Award 2020 for Social and Community Impact.

During the last ten years we have invested over £200 million in facilities designed to give students the very best possible learning environment. We have more investment planned and continue to develop teaching to be innovative, stimulating and engaging.

Recent investments include:

- £12 million STEM Centre including facilities for mechanical testing, robotics and an anechoic chamber
- State-of-the-art £10.8 million Sports Centre
- Immersive Interactive Simulation Suite, the only one of its kind in a University outside London
- Forensic Training Facility with a dedicated crime scene house
- Fashion industry facility at Chandos Pole Street
- Industry-standard Bloomberg Financial Markets Lab



National Education Opportunities Network (NEON) Awards 2020



UK Social Mobility Awards 2020



Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey 2020



for Social and Community Impact



None of our waste is sent to landfill. If it can't be recycled it's turned into energy



Accredited Fairtrade University

The City

Derby's location makes it a great place for business, offering promising job prospects for our graduates.

Global names such as Rolls-Royce, Toyota and Bombardier are well-established in the city, while new enterprises thrive here too.

It's a friendly and affordable place to live, offering a wealth of amenities in a compact space. Traditional shops and cobbled streets in the historic Cathedral Quarter are complemented by the high street names and leisure facilities of a large indoor shopping centre.

For sport enthusiasts the city offers a Championship football team, county cricket, rugby, and a velodrome among others.

Derby has a wealth of parks and green spaces, ideal for relaxing with family and friends; and close by is the beautiful Peak District National Park with its stunning scenery, historic houses and range of activities for all tastes.



Our Future

Our Strategic Framework provides the foundations and direction on which to plan, perform and succeed in a changing and globally dynamic environment between now and 2030. Developed in consultation with staff, students and stakeholders, the Framework has a simple promise at its heart: everything the University does is driven by delivering excellence and opportunities for our students, staff and region.

The Framework is designed to allow us to be flexible and adaptable to the changing environment in which we operate. Producing a long-term strategy during a period of unprecedented change, not only in the sector but politically, socially and economically, creates a challenge but many opportunities. The University is ambitious for our students, staff and region knowing what is right for students today may not be for tomorrow and getting this right is most important for our future success.

The Framework is supported by three 'pillars':

Game Changers

- Students will set their aspirations high, think beyond the obvious and have the ingenuity, curiosity and enterprise to succeed
- Industry-relevant and research-informed curriculum
- High-quality learning environment
- Modern learning methods
- Range of opportunities

Positive Impact

- Research, knowledge creation and innovation are focused on making a practical, positive difference to people's lives close to home and around the world
- Raising aspirations / developing skills across the region
- Positioning Derby on the global stage
- Driving the economic, social, cultural, educational and environmental prosperity of their home

Opening Doors

- A champion of social mobility, firmly believing in the transformational nature of education
- Creating opportunities for all across the region
- Something on offer for whatever stage of life or career
- Pioneer for online, blended and virtual learning
- Global outlook

We have a long-standing reputation for teaching excellence of which we are extremely proud and now is the time to build further on this, through more focused and integrated applied research.

Opportunities are a core element of our academic approach – not only in terms of delivering these, but through a culture of curiosity and drive instilled in students and staff to seek and create their own. We are proud to be the only University in the city and county as this enriches connectivity within the region, but as importantly, we relish the civic responsibilities this brings.

This is an ambitious University with purpose, positivity and confidence in what we are going to accomplish over the next ten years.



Our People Vision

At Derby, our People Vision is based on the simple belief that if we attract the right people, motivate them and provide development in a supportive, friendly performance-focused environment, then together we will enjoy continuing success. We believe that this is the ultimate people business and we place great emphasis upon engaging with colleagues and stakeholders.

This will be achieved by putting the University’s values at the heart of everything we do and by being a ‘values-led’ organisation. This means that, in striving to realise our strategic ambitions, we place as much value on how we do things as on what we do.

Our values form the bedrock of our approach:

- Value People
- Bold
- Future Focused
- Brilliance

The University wants all students, staff and stakeholders to be delighted by their experience, proud of their achievements and become active promoters of the University. Continuing to do this has given us a clear and positive signature and a definite edge in the new HE marketplace. Moreover, we are committed to providing all staff with excellent career and personal development opportunities, together with a total rewards philosophy based on providing competitive, affordable, flexible packages that recognise performance.

For more information on the Corporate Plan and Values please see:
derby.ac.uk/about/strategic-framework



University Librarian

Learning and Teaching

The University Librarian is a newly-established role within the University of Derby's reconfigured Delivery and Operations Group reporting to the Provost (Learning & Teaching). The successful candidate will join the University at a transformational time for learning and teaching, and will play a leading role in the development of our strategy and underpinning policies relating to learning and teaching and research.

Working collaboratively to ensure cross-institutional strategic and academic leadership for library services, learning resources and integrated study skills, the role will promote academic excellence and contribute to the realisation of a student-centric approach to the student experience and success.

The University Librarian must ensure that services create opportunities for all members of the University to research, explore knowledge, learn, develop skills and benefit from the resources in the Library and beyond. This will include a commitment to ensuring the Library meets the diverse needs of research, learning and teaching and academic communities as informed by the Provost (Learning & Teaching) and the Provost (Research & Innovation) portfolios.

This is an exciting opportunity for an experienced, qualified University Librarian with a comprehensive understanding and data-driven insight into sector developments and an innovative approach to enhancing the student experience and the University's research community and to make a significant contribution to an ambitious University.



Job and Person Specification

Role Summary

The University Librarian has cross-institutional strategic and academic leadership responsibility for library services, learning resources and integrated study skills enhancement services. The role is key to promoting academic excellence and contributing to the realisation of a student centric approach to the student experience and success.

You will be actively engaged with professional and academic networks, build productive relationships and be creative in identifying new opportunities and delivering innovative solutions. The design of services and the collection will create opportunities for all members of the University to explore knowledge, learn, develop skills and benefit from the resources in the Library and beyond.

You will have a commitment to ensuring the Library meets the diverse needs of learning, teaching and academic communities, curricula and pedagogies of the University. You will be innovative, understand the opportunities of new technologies and be able to lead an efficient and responsive library to enable quality learning and research and excellence in the student experience.

Principal Accountabilities

1.

To develop the vision and strategy for the provision of library and knowledge resources, ensuring that these evolve to reflect the University’s priorities and the changing needs and priorities of students, academics and researchers with a focus on inclusion, skills development, digital transformation, celebrating knowledge and learning, and enabling success.
2.

Evaluate the impact of the Library and ensure continuous improvement.
3.

To define and agree business plans, measurable goals and performance targets, ensuring that relevant processes are in place to deliver strategic goals, continuous improvement and compliance appropriate to the operating environment.
4.

Lead collaboratively and enable the Library team to work effectively across the organisation so that the Library Collection is aligned with the learning, teaching and research of the University and information literacy and digital skills are embedded throughout the student journey.
5.

Ensure the service is positioned to respond effectively to emerging challenges in a range of areas (i.e. new technologies, social media and pedagogical changes).
6.

Lead academic library study skills support, ensuring that services are integrated, evidence-based and inclusive.
7.

Ensure the service and learning resource infrastructure provides effective support to all parts of the University’s academic community.
8.

Operating within the University procedures, practices and evidence informed approaches, promote best resource value for students.
9.

Work with other senior colleagues across the University to develop and implement strategic innovations and developments in curriculum design, learning, teaching and research.
10.

Act as an advisor to the University on scholarly communications.
11.

Lead, engage, motivate and develop the Library team, securing effective creativity performance management and increased innovation and creative in service delivery.
12.

Develop and maintain a regional, national and international profile contributing to the development of cooperative schemes.
13.

Actively engage with relevant learning and teaching of research projects with the University.

Person Specification - Essential Criteria

Qualifications

- Qualified Librarian.
- Honours degree.
- Evidence of relevant continuous professional development and active memberships or affiliations with relevant external associations or networks (such as the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals).
- An academic profile and teaching/research/pedagogic track record commensurate with a senior academic leadership post.
- Relevant postgraduate qualification.

Experience

- Proven track record of leadership in a University library, including academic liaison and management of relationships with suppliers.
- Evidence of applying an understanding of the evolution of libraries, publishing, open access, information management, technology and social media, including relevant legislation, to deliver robust library services.
- An excellent record of successful leadership and management within higher education.
- Extensive experience of budget management.
- Evidence of developing and driving an inclusive, innovative customer centred Library and knowledge resource strategy.

Skills, knowledge & abilities

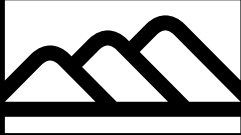
- Excellent knowledge and understanding of library services, data management, systems and publishers with expertise in relationship management, system and service development, copyright and scholarly communications.
- Evidence of personal track-record in relevant area of research and/or understanding of the higher education research environment and landscape.
- Ability to promote library services, information and digital literacy at a strategic level.
- Ability to represent the University and the service externally and to build productive relationships across the sector and with suppliers.
- Ability to assimilate changes in the sector which impact on the service and respond appropriately.
- Excellent communication (written and verbal), including strong negotiation and influencing, skills.
- A collaborative leadership approach, and demonstrable ability to manage and motivate teams and across internal and external networks to achieve impact.
- Ability to build and use networks at international, national and local levels to deliver an extensive provision and to maximise the use of collaborations to further learning, teaching and research.
- Commitment to outstanding customer service and continuous quality improvement.

Benefits

As well as competitive pay scales, we offer generous holiday entitlement. We also offer opportunities for further salary progression based on performance, and the opportunity to join a contributory pension scheme.

The University of Derby is committed to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion. However you identify, we actively celebrate the knowledge, experience and talents each person brings.

For more information on the benefits of working at the University of Derby go to the **Benefit pages of our website**.



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