University Dean for the Welsh Language

Accountable to and representing the Deputy Vice-Chancellor as the member of UEB responsible for the Welsh Language, the University Dean for Welsh will provide committed academic leadership to develop and deliver on a key strategic priority for the University: the Welsh language strategy and its related activities. Working within the framework of the University’s overarching strategy and its policies and procedures, the Dean will foster individual and joint contributions to promote and develop Welsh language and culture, as well as providing leadership for key Welsh-language staff to ensure a unified approach to achieving the objectives set out in the institution’s Welsh Language Strategy.

The Dean for Welsh is expected to work collaboratively across the University, ensuring that the Welsh language is an integral part of our culture and activities. This is to be achieved by working through the structures of Academi Gymraeg (the Welsh-language Academy), the entity that embodies all Welsh-language related activity within the University, and whose core staff sit in the Vice-Chancellor’s Office.

As such, the Dean will work closely with the Academi Gymraeg Manager and Coleg Cymraeg Branch Officer, as well as the Senior Compliance Advisor and Welsh Language Officer who sits in the University Secretariat. They will simultaneously be required to foster positive working relationships with other senior leaders across the institution to ensure responsibility and accountability for the Welsh language within the various departments and academic schools.

**The Dean for the Welsh Language is expected to:**

1. Work closely with all parts of the University, at all levels, in fostering 1) individual and joint contributions 2) individual and collective accountability and responsibility, in order to promote and develop the Welsh language;

2. Ensure that awareness of the Welsh language and Welsh culture in its widest and most inclusive forms is promoted across the University to staff and the wider body of students, and advocate for members of the University’s Welsh-language community, in all their diversity.

3. Act on behalf of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor to be the senior academic responsible for the University’s relationship with the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol;

4. Oversee strategically the University’s Welsh Language Provision portfolio;

5. Stimulate the work required to achieve the institutional strategy in terms of Welsh Language Provision

6. Be a high-profile champion of the academic and wider needs of Welsh-speaking students (e.g. personal tutoring, Welsh-language assessments, student support services, residences etc.);

7. Deputise in this area on behalf of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor as appropriate;

8. Represent the interests of the University on internal and external committees/working groups as appropriate.

**Key Competencies, Abilities and Experience**

- Strong history of supporting/working in the Welsh language
• A working understanding of current policies and procedures that are foundational to the Welsh language
• A strong understanding of the environment, issues, trends and external developments in the field
• Demonstrable experience of Academic Leadership with the ability to think strategically and foster a shared vision
• A history of building effective and productive internal and external working relationships
• Involvement with relevant professional communities
• A wide range of understanding of current activity being carried out in the field, and the requirements for the future

Attributes and Skills
• Proven abilities as a team leader, and the ability to inspire and motivate others
• Good negotiation skills, flexibility and open mind
• An inclusive and collegial management style that can establish relationships across a wide spectrum of stakeholders, including colleagues, students and external groups
• Initiative and the ability to judge, decide and manage change
• Excellent oral and written communication skills in Welsh and English, networking and team building skills

This role will be 0.6 FTE and fixed term for 3 years, with the possibility of an extension for a further 3 years. The post holder will receive a non-pensionable annual allowance of £4,500.