UCA
University for the
Creative Arts

Director of School –
Games & Creative Technology

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UCA is the UK's top specialist art and design university for world-leading research outputs

(REF 2021)

UCA featured in The Rookies' Top 50 Creative Media & Entertainment Schools and Colleges in the World 2022, ranking 39th overall and 3rd in the UK

£2 million invested in study spaces and facilities, including new Virtual Production studio

**Appointment to Director of School – Games & Creative Technology
University for the Creative Arts**

Dear Applicant,

I am delighted you have expressed interest in becoming the new Director of School – Games & Creative Technology.

UCA is a university that is free of borders and boundaries, and there are no limits to the possibilities for our staff and students. Especially going forward, as we aim to establish ourselves as a global authority in the creative industries. Whether it's creativity with an arts, technology or business focus, UCA is a place to flourish and make a difference.

Part of our recent development includes a £2m investment in establishing our School of Games & Creative Technology, growing our portfolio of exciting undergraduate and postgraduate courses, and building on our exceptional facilities. As a result, the School is thriving, so it's an ideal time to take the reins and steer it to the very top.

This role will suit an exceptionally skilled individual with great leadership qualities, a clear and focused vision for success, and a passion both for games and creative technologies.

If you want to lead from the front, innovate, and work collaboratively to help UCA's School of Games & Creative Technology become world-leading, then we look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Professor Bashir Makhoul
President & Vice-Chancellor
University for the Creative Arts

About UCA

The University for the Creative Arts (UCA) is a creative university defined by adaptability and innovation. We're excited by change and difference, and the possibilities they open up. Specialising in creative arts, business and technology, we shape the world's creative future and help students find opportunities that speak to them, so they can make the future their own.

To read more about the successes of UCA and for more detail on the Senior Leadership Team, please visit: **uca.ac.uk/About-Us**

To read about our 2018–2028 strategy, please visit:
uca.ac.uk/About-Us/OurStrategy

Our community
At UCA, we strive to foster an inclusive community where people have a strong sense of belonging, working alongside creative people from every background you can imagine. **Find out more**.

Your future
We believe in a creative future for all – not just our students, but our graduates, and our staff, too. We believe in supporting creative endeavour, and forging opportunities that set us apart.

UCA in 2023

UCA is a creative community of around 11,000 registered students from all parts of the UK and overseas, who are enrolled on a wide range of specialist undergraduate and postgraduate taught and doctoral courses.

The School of Games & Creative Technology is located at our largest campus, UCA Farnham, in the John Luard Building, spread over three floors and featuring multiple studios equipped with high-end PCs with Alienware towers, 4k dual screen monitors and Wacom Cintiq graphics tablets, Unity and Unreal games engines, motion capture and VR development facilities and a new Virtual Production studio. The School is also home to the UCA Games Incubator Studio for graduate entrepreneurs looking to set up their own companies, or to release games to market.

UCA's operations are not just confined to Farnham – courses run in the following schools and locations:

Canterbury
School of Architecture & Design
School of Fine Art, Crafts & Photography
(also at Farnham)
UCA Doctoral College

Epsom
Business School for the Creative Industries
School of Fashion & Textiles
UCA International College
(also at Farnham)

Farnham
School of Communications
School of Games & Creative Technology
School of Film, Media & Performing Arts
(Television Production is taught at Maidstone Studios)
School of Fine Art, Crafts & Photography
(also at Canterbury)
UCA International College
(also at Epsom)

Xiamen, China
Institute for Creativity and Innovation (ICI)

Director of School –
Games & Creative Technology

School/Department:
School of Games &
Creative Technology

Location:
Farnham (although travel to other
campuses will be required)

Hours of Work:
36.25 hours per week

Salary:
Will be competitive based on
applicant's experience and seniority

Reports to:
Deputy Vice-Chancellor

Responsible for:
Programme Directors

Summary of Main Job Purpose

To be responsible for the strategic development, leadership and management of the School of Games & Creative Technology and for the conduct and development of its teaching, research and enterprise in the context of the School, University and associated professional spheres.

As a member of the University Executive Group, undertake specific strategic objectives or tasks that support University-wide activities.

The University actively encourages staff development and training. You are expected to participate in training and development activities as necessary to meet job, institutional and personal development.

Main Duties/Responsibilities

These are the key responsibilities of the job. On occasion you may be required to undertake other duties commensurate with your grade.

– Work with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Global Engagement), Pro Vice-Chancellor (Student Experience) and other Directors/Heads of Schools to support the academic goals of the University, working as a member of the senior academic team of the University on the enhancement of the curriculum, teaching, learning and research.

– Provide visionary academic leadership in support of the strategic development of the School, ensuring the progression and delivery of the School's portfolio is fit for purpose, in the context of the University's Strategy.

– Enhance and develop the profile of the School and University nationally and internationally by developing a strategy for seeking school accreditations, extending links and forming collaborations with educational providers (TNE), industrial, professional and governmental bodies.

– Work as a member of the University Executive Group to support the Leadership Team and other members of the Executive to support the development and delivery of the Strategic Plan, taking responsibility for discrete projects and work, working within and across teams to bring about change.

– To review and develop the portfolio of undergraduate, postgraduate and TNE to ensure currency, internationalisation of the culture and curricula and the development and delivery of new initiatives.

– To work with the Programme Directors to ensure that reputational measures (TEF, REF, league tables) are delivered according to ambitious goals for enhancement, including the development of the brand of the School and its recognition externally and internationally.

– Work with Programme Directors and colleagues to ensure effective delivery and the ongoing enhancement of the student experience, student success and student employability, and to ensure ongoing improvement in NSS/ISS/PTES and GOS survey results.

Main Duties continued

- Lead the development of the School's strategy, assisted by the UCA Director of Research & Innovation, ensuring the reputation of the School competes on the world stage.

- To take responsibility for the development of research within the School and other high-profile research activity, including internal and external partnerships for the delivery of research and consultancy.

- To deliver ambitious plans and targets for income generation, including income from and for research and consultancy.

- To plan and make effective use of the full range of resources allocated to the School, and take strategic responsibility for the planning, budgetary control and management of the School's revenue, capital and non-core budgets.

- Develop effective strategies for recruitment to the targets set by the University (home and international, and including growth in the progression of students from local FE provision) and increasing income.

- Facilitate, develop and monitor new approaches to learning and teaching and disseminate pedagogic good practice, playing a key role in the University's Teaching and Learning strategies and projects.

- Ensure effective mechanisms are in place for the quality assurance and enhancement of taught courses and research provision, in accordance with University procedures,

and to remain actively engaged with the delivery of courses.

- Ensure effective systems of communication and representation within the School and the creation of a stimulating and productive community.

- Ensure effective student representation at all levels and work closely with the Students' Union on the development of an appropriate system of representation and its implementation.

- Lead on the appointment, development, deployment and appraisal of all staff in the School, and line-manage Professors, Readers, Programme Directors and other senior colleagues.

- Provide research leadership within the School and conduct individual and collective practice / research in their own field and pursue personal research and enterprise funding.

- Chair and be a member of relevant Management Groups and Academic Committees, contributing to the strategic direction and development of the School and University.

- Ensure that all areas of the School comply with the University's Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy, and undertake the role of Responsible Person.

- Undertake further tasks and take on other responsibilities as directed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor.
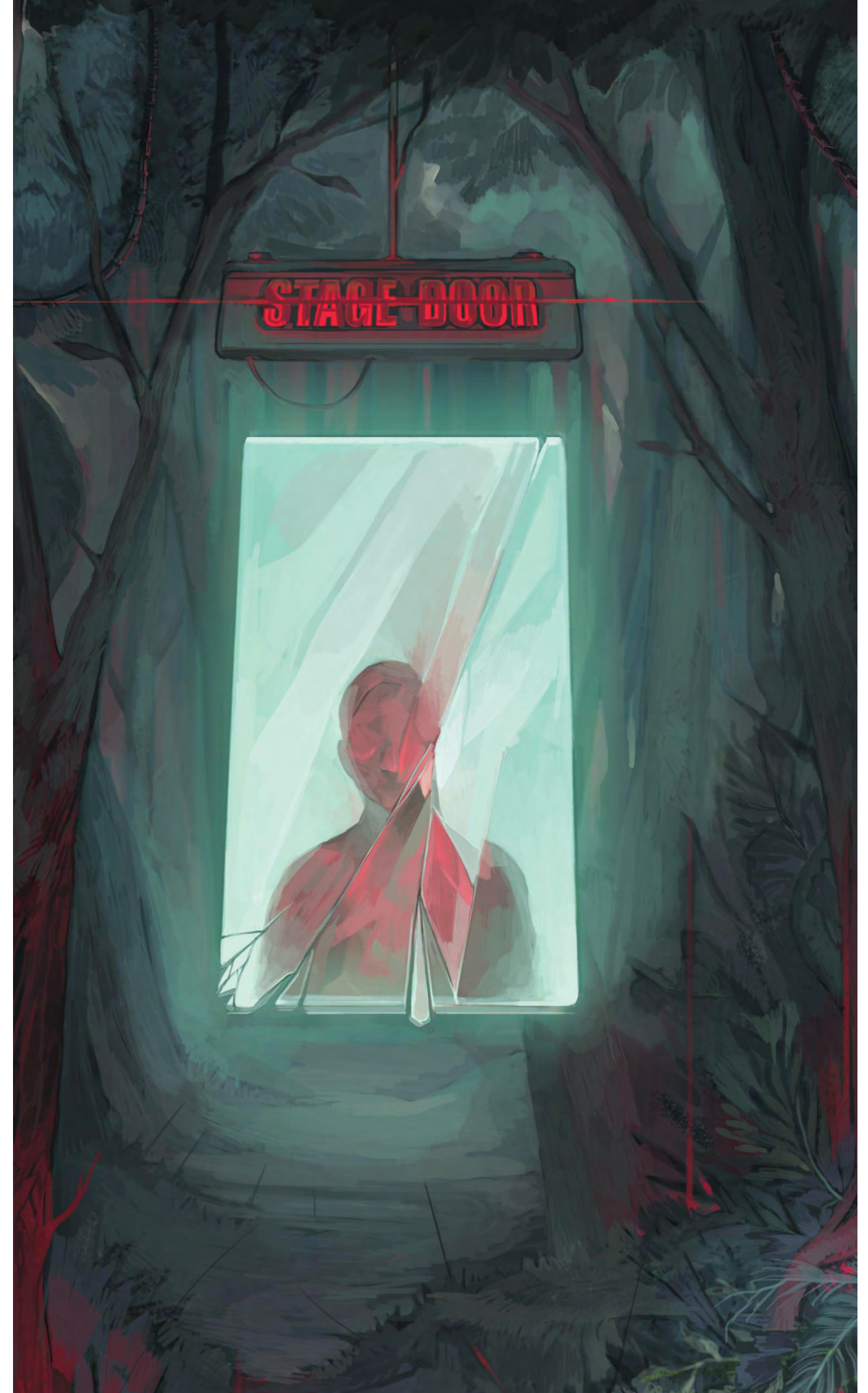
Person Specification

The ideal candidate would be able to demonstrate the following skills and attributes:

– Evidence of in-depth knowledge of the direction of Games and Creative Technology in the UK and/or globally

– The ability to articulate a clear and compelling vision and strategy for the School

– Evidence of leadership experience and ability to manage teams and work with colleagues on the implementation of strategies and plans

– Personal research/practice profile/leadership in relevant discipline

– Evidence of relationships (research, industry, international) that bring opportunity and enhancement

– Excellent people management skills and evidence of developing individuals to their full potential and creating and sustaining high performing teams

– Evidence of outstanding organizational and communication skills with an ability to understand and resolve complex problems (within an HE setting)

– Evidence of excellence in quality assurance and enhancement of the student experience

– Evidence of high levels of performance in student recruitment (home and overseas)

– Postgraduate degree in an appropriate subject

– Postgraduate research degree (desirable)

How to apply

Anderson Quigley is acting as an advisor to the University. An executive search process is being carried out by Anderson Quigley in addition to the public advertisement.

The closing date for applications is **12:00 noon, Friday 16th June 2023.**

Final interviews will be held on **5th July 2023.**

Applications should consist of:

• A full CV

• A covering letter (maximum of two pages) outlining how you meet the selection criteria

• Please include details of two referees in your CV, though please note that we will not approach your referees without your prior consent and only should you be shortlisted

To apply, go to www.andersonquigley.com using reference **AQ1931**

Should you wish to discuss the role in strict confidence, please contact:

Sophie Rees on +44 (0)7719 313 982, sophie@andersonquigley.com, or Elliott Rae on +44 (0)7584 078 534 or elliott@andersonquigley.com.

The University aims to provide a diverse and inclusive environment for all of our staff and students. As a teaching staff, we are currently over-represented by those who identify as 'White' and 'Male'. We particularly encourage applications from women and people of Black heritage. We are also a 'Disability Confident' employer and guarantee an interview to disabled candidates who meet the essential criteria of our person specification. We greatly look forward to the possibility of meeting you soon.

UCA Leadership

President & Vice-Chancellor
Professor Bashir Makhoul

Deputy Vice-Chancellor
Professor Simon Macklin

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Student Experience)
Professor Sarah Clark

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Global Engagement)
Professor Terry Perk

Chief Operating Officer
Professor Mark Ellul

Director of People & Culture
Angela Fisher

Director of Finance
Sam Laws

Head of Corporate Governance
Sam Weir

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