Academic Director of Partnerships and STEAM			
Faculty / Department:	Engagement and Enterprise	**Grade:**	Grade L: £92,593 - £104,762
New appointees to Birmingham City University will ordinarily be appointed at the entry point of the appropriate grade			
Responsible to:	PVC Research, Enterprise, Engagement and STEAM	**Responsible for:**	TBD

Job Purpose

As a STEAM-powered, Civic University, Birmingham City University is transforming lives through knowledge, collaboration, and creativity. In alignment with Strategy 2030, the Academic Director of Partnerships and STEAM will lead on the delivery of partnerships with a particular focus on driving STEAM-based innovation and excellence through practice-facing collaborative education. STEAM is an employability and skills pipeline strategy that involves:

- Interdisciplinary Teaching and Learning (T&L), to create broadly skilled and confident graduates that can draw on knowledge and problem-solving methods outside their core discipline.
- Project based T&L and authentic assessment, creating work ready graduates.
- Embedding employers in the classroom to create a professional environment with authentic work-like experiences.

The Academic Director of Partnerships and STEAM, working closely with PVC Research, Enterprise, Engagement and STEAM (PVC REES), the PVC Education, the PVC Academic and the Directors of Enterprise and Engagement, will be measurably accountable for the impact of STEAM activities on the key KPIs for BCU's Strategy 2030, and will operationalise STEAM opportunities with external partners to:

- Create and deliver the strategy for BCU's home academic partnerships ensuring alignment with the STEAM agenda and BCU's student recruitment strategy and significantly grow a secure pipeline of students from college and other FE/HE providers on integrated pathways to BCU provision.
- Deliver measurably improved graduate outcomes (employability) through STEAM based civic, industrial, and FE/HE sector collaborations that also enhance the student experience and support inclusive economic and social development.
- Measurably improve student experience and graduate outcomes by embedding interdisciplinary and practice-based learning through STEAM, in partnership with the PVC Education,
- Deliver a consistent and integrated approach to employer engagement, knowledge exchange, and work-integrated learning and be accountable for the scale of adoption of employers actively participating in the classroom and curriculum.
- Demonstrably establish Innovation Fest as a positive brand asset for BCU across the region and with select international partners that drives student numbers and graduate employability by ensuring the delivery of Innovation Fest as a series of cross-university events that celebrates student achievement, champions partnerships with employers in industry, enterprise, 3rd sector and the community and engages with prospective students.

Main Activities and Responsibilities

Operational Leadership & Institutional Engagement

1. Be accountable for the number, size and profitability of home academic partnerships and the partnerships meeting key graduate outcome, student attainment and student number growth metrics by recommending to the executive and operationalising strategic partnerships with employers and FE partners. The development of such partnerships should be in support of the recruitment strategy lead by BCU's Marketing and Communications department.
2. Deliver Innovation Fest and its benefits
3. Support the implementation of BCU's Strategy 2030 and STEAM agenda across academic partners.
4. Work closely with Deans of School and partner leads to ensure excellence in learning & teaching and academic outcomes, as measured by the effect of STEAM on B3 and TEF KPIs.
5. Contribute to cross-functional teams to deliver seamless support for partners and students.
6. Monitor performance and provide high-quality reporting for internal and external stakeholders.
7. Be committed and contribute to BCU's principles of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.
8. Undertake any other duties as appropriate to the role and agreed with the PVC Research, Enterprise, Engagement and STEAM.

STEAM and Interdisciplinary Innovation

9. Be accountable for the improvement in graduate outcomes, student satisfaction and student attainment attributable to embedding STEAM in BCU provision and across partners
10. Embed STEAM principles across partnership activity to foster interdisciplinary innovation, as measured by the number of modules bearing some or all STEAM attributes (inter-disciplinary, project-based and embedded employers).
11. Support Schools in co-designing programmes and projects that align with STEAM and enterprise goals, working closely with the PVC Education and the PVC Academic.
12. Working closely with the PVC Education and the PVC Academic, champion STEAM curriculum design and initiatives with academic partners, including STEAM Sprints and Attributes, with accountability for STEAM's improvement of Graduate Outcomes and student attainment.
13. Engage employer partners to strengthen STEAM-aligned talent pipelines, working closely with the Director of Engagement and Enterprise, and measured by the number of employers actively engaged in the STEAM curriculum and ultimately by tracking student employment with employer partners.

STEAM and Knowledge Exchange, Enterprise, and Civic Impact

14. Be accountable for the number and success of entrepreneurship opportunities, industry collaboration and public engagements linked to STEAM themes, measured by number of such STEAM projects.
15. Align partnerships with regional skills strategies and influence bodies such as the Institutes of Technology.
16. Build civic partnerships that advance Birmingham and the West Midlands' social and economic growth.
17. Collaborate with Research & Enterprise teams to deliver impactful KEF outcomes aligned with STEAM, measured by interdisciplinary Narratives of Impact and Impact Cases.
18. Ensures the growth of Innovation Fest, working closely with Marketing & Communications, the PVC Academic, the PVC Research, Enterprise, Engagement and STEAM and the PVC for Education, connecting the universities partners and prospective students with academia.

Person Specification	
Essential Criteria	**Application Form / Support Statement / Interview**
1. Proven leadership in delivering academic partnerships and engagement.	Application Form / Support Statement / Interview
2. Strong track record in developing successful education-industry collaborations.	Application Form / Support Statement / Interview
3. Strong track record of delivering excellent academic results.	Application Form / Support Statement / Interview
4. Deep understanding of interdisciplinary learning, particularly STEAM.	Application Form / Interview
5. Strategic thinker with operational delivery focus.	Application Form / Interview
6. Inclusive leadership with commitment to equity and innovation.	Application Form / Support Statement / Interview
7. Excellent relationship-building, negotiation and communication skills.	Interview
8. Currency of knowledge on developments in HE partnerships, employability, and STEAM to ensure BCU's agility and innovation.	Application Form / Support Statement / Interview
9. Proven ability to work with the University Executive Team or equivalent, with the ability to contribute and potentially lead University wide projects as appropriate.	Application Form / Interview
10. Proven ability to lead the academic and partnership aspects of showpiece events.	Application Form / Interview
Desirable Criteria	
11. Knowledge and awareness of the broad context of research in Higher Education and government policy in the UK and the current and forthcoming challenges and opportunities it presents.	Application Form / Support Statement / Interview
12. Doctoral level qualification.	Application Form
13. Professorial status, or the eligibility to be awarded professorial status upon appointment.	Application Form

- Application Form – assessed against the application form. Normally used to evaluate factual evidence e.g. award of a qualification. Will be assessed as part of the shortlisting process.
- CV - applicants are asked to provide a statement to demonstrate how they meet the criteria, and may reference their CV. The response will be assessed as part of the shortlisting process.
- Interview – assessed during the interview process by either competency-based interview questions, tests, work-related exercise, presentation and discussion, or teaching session etc.