



a.r.u. | Anglia Ruskin
University

**ACHIEVE
YOUR
EXCELLENCE,
TOGETHER**

CANDIDATE BRIEF



Director of Estates &
Facilities

WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR

Thank you for your interest in working at ARU.

ARU is a global university transforming lives through innovative, inclusive and entrepreneurial education and research. We hold a Gold award for the quality of our education, awarded through the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF), and are the Times Higher Education University of the Year 2024.

ARU's research institutes and four faculties bridge scientific, technical and creative fields. We deliver impactful research which tackles pressing issues and makes a real difference to our communities. Our academic excellence has been recognised by the UK's Higher Education funding bodies, with 16 of our research areas assessed as including world-leading research in REF2021.

We are the largest provider of Nursing, Midwifery, Health and Social Care students in the East of England, and we are also among the UK's leading universities for degree apprenticeship provision, working with hundreds of employers across the UK.

Our student population is vibrant and diverse, putting us in an excellent position to respond to the various challenges facing the sector. At the same time, as a civic institution with campuses across the East of England we are committed to working with others to enhance the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of our region.

We're committed to creating a vibrant, welcoming environment for our students, staff and communities and are seeking to appoint a Director of Estates and Facilities to play a leading role in the realisation of this commitment.

This is an exciting time to join ARU as Director of Estates and Facilities, leading on our strategic and sustainability ambitions for 2026 and beyond.

“I look forward to welcoming the successful candidate to our University”

**Professor
Roderick Watkins**

Vice Chancellor



ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

ARU's story starts in 1858, with the opening of Cambridge School of Art. Over the years a number of colleges and higher education institutions have come together to form what is now Anglia Ruskin University. Our most recent milestones include the creation of ARU Peterborough in 2022 and ARU Writtle in 2024.

Our focus has always been on transforming lives through innovative, inclusive, and entrepreneurial education and research – and this still underpins our vision and values today. Our overarching vision is supported by our ten-year strategy, Designing our Future 2017-26.



As a university, we're managed by a Board of Governors and a Senate. Our Vice Chancellor, Professor Roderick Watkins, is responsible for the day-to-day leadership of ARU. The Vice Chancellor is supported by the Vice Chancellor's Group (VCG) which consists of two Deputy Vice Chancellors (Education and Research & Innovation), plus the Chief Operating Officer, Director of Finance and the Secretary and Clerk to the Governors.



We have four faculties at ARU, each providing students, industry and the academic community with professionally focused and world-leading courses and research.

The four Pro Vice Chancellors/Deans of Faculties all report directly to the Vice Chancellor and are members of the University Executive Team (UET), the University's executive decision-making body. The Heads of Schools report into the Pro Vice Chancellors/Deans.

OUR MISSION AND VALUES

Our mission at ARU - transforming lives through innovative, inclusive and entrepreneurial education and research – guides everything we do. And our values – ambition, innovation, courage, community, integrity and responsibility – set out how we act, seeking to promote public good and serve our students and the communities in which we are based.

Our values

- **Ambition:** We are determined to achieve our goals and continually strive to enhance our university for the benefit of all.
- **Innovation:** We will apply our collective and individual creativity to conceive and develop new ideas, implementing them for the benefit of the communities we serve.
- **Courage:** We are bold in taking the decisions we feel are right, even when it is difficult to do so.
- **Community:** We greatly value working collaboratively, supporting each other and helping everyone to achieve their potential.
- **Integrity:** We do what we say we will do and are fair and transparent in our decision-making and actions.
- **Responsibility:** We take decisions and act in a way which respects environmental, societal, and economic considerations, and which best supports those who study and work with us.



We seek colleagues who are committed to our values and who will play a leading role in ensuring we deliver on our mission.

OUR STRATEGY

In 2017, we published our institutional strategy, **Designing our Future 2017–2026**. On the 25th anniversary of our achieving university status, it set out our vision, priorities and ambitions for the next ten years, built around three themes:

1. Creating a leading learning and innovation ecosystem
2. Building and nurturing vibrant university communities
3. Strengthening the underpinning operations of the University



The delivery of our overarching strategy is supported through the implementation of three underpinning strategies for Education, Research & Innovation and Operating. The diagram below illustrates how the three strategies intersect to deliver the institutional strategy.

EDUCATION STRATEGY

2022 - 2027

ARU's outstanding and transformative education will support students at all levels to achieve their full potential and create a positive impact on their lives and work.

Our students have diverse backgrounds, interests and styles of learning. This diversity informs the way we will deliver our education and support our graduates and alumni to achieve their full potential, excel in their chosen careers, and tackle environmental and societal challenges. We will develop life-long partnerships with our students, pooling our knowledge and experience to address the challenges we face today, together.



To achieve this we will:

Deliver an inclusive and transformative education

ARU courses create space for students to work in partnership with businesses and organisations to tackle societal challenges and enhance their employability.

- Our flexible courses reflect the variety of needs and ambitions of our diverse student cohorts.
- We are a leader in innovative degree apprenticeships where education and employment are closely integrated.
- Our students engage in active, interdisciplinary curricula, tackling societal and environmental challenges with our local, regional and global communities.
- Our graduates have the skills, capabilities, and mindsets to contribute positively to their environment and communities.

Foster a research-rich educational environment

Our students receive – and contribute to – an education underpinned by sector-leading research.

- Engaging in and advancing research is an integral part of all our students' education, enhancing their employability and enabling them to contribute positively to a sustainable future.
- We deliver sector-leading pedagogic research and practice with our students to enhance their education.
- Our graduates are creative problem-solvers, prepared for wide-ranging careers.

Create vibrant living and learning communities

All our students connect to one another and our wider communities in ways that enhance their belonging and recognise their contributions.

- We focus on providing an excellent student experience within and around our courses.
- We recognise that no two members of the ARU community are the same and each student and staff member's contribution is valued.
- ARU students receive unique opportunities to engage in knowledge exchange outside of their course.
- Students engage with global communities through ARU's international connections and partnerships.



Offer innovative and flexible learning for life

- We create opportunities for prospective students and our alumni to grow and learn together throughout their lives.
- We create pathways to higher education for the diverse communities across our regions.
- We continue to learn from and educate our alumni throughout their lives, including a 'Learning for Life' offer for our alumni and local communities.

OUR RESEARCH & INNOVATION

The overarching aim of our Research and Innovation Strategy is 'to deliver transformative benefits locally and globally'.

We are passionate about research at ARU: its potential to innovate, and its power to enhance social, cultural and economic well-being at national and global levels.

In summer 2022 we published our new Research and Innovation Strategy and are currently working on its implementation in support of realizing the associated ambitions and performance indicators.

Our reputation as a centre for outstanding research continues to grow. ARU is home to [six research institutes](#) and [one cross-institutional research centre](#), whose work is having a positive impact on the world. These groupings focus on subjects including music therapy, sustainability, policing and crime, and clinical and medical innovation.

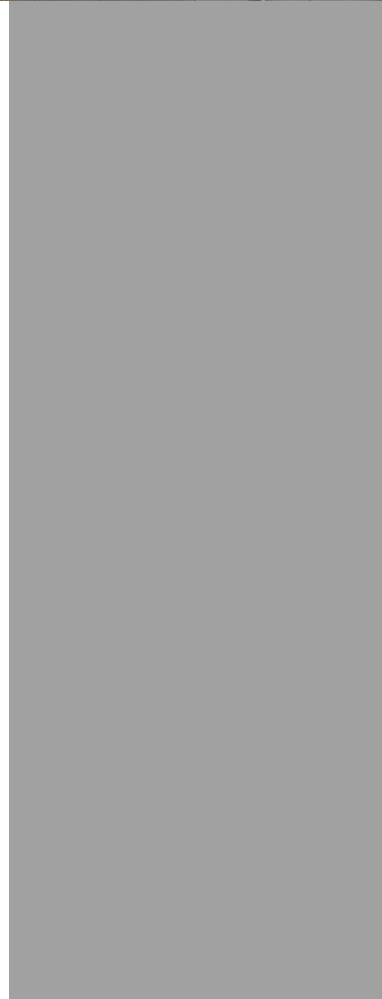
Discover more about our world-leading and impactful research, including case studies from our exciting new dynamic ARU-wide and highly interdisciplinary [Research, Innovation and Impact Themes](#): Sustainable Futures, Safe and Inclusive Communities and Health, Performance and Wellbeing.

ARU has established an excellent range of strategic compacts and collaborations with a whole range of government, public sector, voluntary and community organisations, businesses and industries, the professions and funders. In addition, we offer a significant portfolio of business support programmes and pump-prime funding. Our [Arise Innovation Hubs](#) in Chelmsford and Harlow are collaborative ecosystems with ARU and the wider business environment, supporting and helping to grow early stage and established companies in the Health, Performance and Wellbeing sectors. In addition, we have established an Innovation Centre which is part of The Welding Institute Innovation Centre Grouping nationally. The [Anglia Ruskin Innovation Centre](#) is focussed on R&D programmes developing the next generation of business models and tools to help commercialise technologies which address societal challenges around skills, digitalization, net zero and more circular economies.

We are now at the start of an ambitious programme of work to implement our new integrated [Education, R&I, Operating Strategies](#), there is significant opportunity for an ambitious, strategic, impact-focused individual to take on the role of Director of the Research and Innovation Development Office and to shape and make a significant contribution to this programme of work.



ABOUT **Estates &** **Facilities**



The Estates & Facilities team at ARU is responsible for estate project development, cleaning and maintenance, environmental management and travel services, timetabling, space management, catering, conference services and residential services (University accommodation).

The university owns property that must be optimised, ensuring transparency of existing use of the estate and developing robust mechanisms to ensure appropriate capacity whilst identifying opportunities for commercial and community benefit to further the aims of the institution. We take seriously our responsibility to make the best use of the university's financial, infrastructure and people through forward planning, innovation and investing in our people and services. We seek to be the center of knowledge for Estates & Facilities expertise.

Sustainability in all its forms is at the heart of this, and we have a dedicated team of professionals to advise and implement sustainable solutions throughout our estate and services.



Our team includes colleagues working in professional, technical and administrative roles. We have a one team approach and work collaboratively to provide spaces that are flexible; promote excellence in teaching, learning and research; and provide an inspirational, welcoming and sustainable environment for students, staff and visitors.

We have an agile working culture to support our staff to work flexibly and balance the demands of their role with their personal circumstances. As well as a competitive salary and extensive benefits, you'll have access to wellbeing, and learning and development support. Join a friendly and supportive team where you can foster your passion for your trade and make a difference to our University community



REWARDS & BENEFITS

We are committed to our staff and have an agile working culture to support individuals to work flexibly and balance the demands of their role with their personal circumstances. As well as a competitive salary and a generous relocation package, you'll have access to an attractive pension scheme, generous annual leave, learning and development support to ensure you thrive at ARU, and to a comprehensive suite of wellbeing resources designed to support your physical, mental, and emotional health.

Click [here](#) to find out more about our rewards and benefits offer.



HOW WE RECRUIT

We are excited that you're considering joining ARU! We are committed to attracting the best talent and ensuring that every candidate has a positive experience. We understand that the application process can be both exciting and challenging, and we aim to support you every step of the way.

We value transparency and want to make sure you know what to expect as you navigate our recruitment process, from submitting your application to going through interviews and eventually onboarding; we also provide resources and tips on effective interview techniques to help you prepare and present your best authentic self.

Click [here](#) if you wish to find out more.



HOW TO Apply

Dixon Walter has been retained by Anglia Ruskin University to provide executive search and advisory services for the role of Director of Estates & Facilities.

For further information please visit

<https://www.dixonwalter.co.uk/opportunities/director-estates-facilities-aruk/>

or to discuss this opportunity, please contact [Simon Critchley](#)

Your application should include on separate documents:

- a letter of application setting out your interest in the role and details of how you match the requirements in the person specification (no more than two pages of A4.)
- a comprehensive Curriculum Vitae
- a completed Personal Details Form
- details of three referees and your notice period (referees will not be contacted without your permission.)

Applications should be emailed to simon@dixonwalter.co.uk at Dixon Walter by the closing date of Thursday 5th December 2024.

Longlist interviews are expected to be held with Dixon Walter via Microsoft Teams in late December 2024 and / or early January 2025.

Final interviews are expected to take place in person on a date to be confirmed in late January / early February 2025.