Applications Developer

Introduction

The Royal Agricultural University (RAU) is going through a period of transformational change. At the forefront of agricultural education since our foundation as the Royal Agricultural College in 1845, the University now has some 1,200 undergraduate students from over 45 different countries studying at our historic campus, set in 25 acres of magnificent grounds in the heart of the Cotswolds. A full University since 2013, we are an acknowledged leader in education and applied research relevant to the land-based industries.

Led by our Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joanna Price, and the Vice-Chancellor's Executive Group, we're working together to deliver our strategic plans and in particular to create an outstanding experience for our students, who can choose from more than 30 different degrees at undergraduate and postgraduate level.

This spring, we've been awarded 'Centre of Excellence' status by the Institute of Enterprise and Entrepreneurs, only the 6th UK university to achieve this. We've also just been shortlisted in the What Uni Student Choice Awards for University of the Year and, for the second year running, Best Job Prospects.

ITS

Our ITS team is responsible for providing, maintaining and enhancing all of our IT, telephony and audio-visual infrastructure, software and services and so has a very significant role to perform in enabling the RAU as a whole to achieve its aims and ambitions. In particular, ITS makes key contributions to two of our strategic aims: to become a sustainable, efficient organisation, and to grow and diversify our student community by promoting an outstanding student experience.

The Role

To take a leading role in our Applications Development team, which is responsible for the on-going development, enhancement, maintenance and integration of the University's IT business and teaching applications and systems and of our student-facing apps and web-sites.

Job title: Applications Developer

Department: ITS (IT Services)

Responsible to: Head of ITS

Location: Cirencester

Salary: Grade 6/7: £25,482-£35,210 - dependent upon experience

Term: Permanent, full-time: average 35hrs/week

Relationships with: staff, students, suppliers and contractors

Key Responsibilities

1. Working with internal customers, develop an in-depth understanding of the RAU's business and pedagogical requirements for its existing and proposed IT systems and applications.

2. Research, design, develop, test and maintain enhancements to the University's student app and student-facing websites, including the integration of online modules from third-party suppliers.

3. Research, design, develop, test and maintain new apps and web-based applications as required to meet the University's business and pedagogical needs.

4. Research, design, develop, test and maintain enhancements to the real-time interfaces, using middleware and web technologies, that link a number of locally and remotely hosted systems, including the University's Student Records, Finance, Accommodation, Library, HR and Payroll systems.

5. Lead inter-departmental teams, which may include contractors and staff from external suppliers, in the initial installation, configuration and on-going administration of new software packages.

6. Design, develop and manage end-user reports using appropriate report-writing tools.

7. Design, conduct and document testing at all levels, including unit, system, and user acceptance.

8. Communicate effectively in writing and verbally with users at all levels in the university, including through the creation and maintenance of detailed documentation of work undertaken.

9. Design and deliver training to end users on business and pedagogical applications, and to technical staff on new technologies.

10. Provide support as required to staff, students, guests and visitors by assisting with the resolution of any IT-related issues they may have encountered.

11. Investigate and resolve issues elevated by the Service Desk team.

12. Undertake on-going personal and professional-based development, ensuring skills and knowledge are up to date so that the role is performed to the required level

13. Devise and manage the training of new and junior members of the team and proactively seek to expand their knowledge

14. Represent the department at internal IT-related committees and meetings.

15. Represent the University at external conferences, seminars and meetings with suppliers.

16. Carry out such other tasks as may be requested by the Head of Department.

Person Specification

REQUIREMENTS The post holder must be able to demonstrate:	ESSENTIAL (E) or DESIRABLE (D) REQUIREMENTS	MEASURED BY: A) Application Form B) Interview C) Test / Exercise
Technical skills		
Knowledge of the following technologies:		
MS SQL	E	A, B, C
.Net / .Net Core	E	A, B, C
C#	E	A, B, C

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XML	E	A, B
Web Services / API integration	E	A, B
HTML / CSS	E	A, B
MVC	D	A, B
Bootstrap	D	A, B
Entity Framework	D	A, B
LINQ to SQL	D	A, B
Biztalk	D	A, B
Active Directory / LDAP	D	A, B
IIS	D	A, B
Experience in multi-tier application architecture	E	A, B
Experience in MS SQL database administration	D	A, B
Personal Qualities		
Effective written and verbal communications skills	E	A, B
High standard of education	E	A
Experience in a similar role	E	A, B
Excellent problem solving and analysis skills	E	A, B
Good interpersonal skills and the ability to build effective working relationships with people at all levels throughout the University	E	B
Experience of working in Higher or Further Education	D	A, B
Professional qualifications, e.g. Microsoft certification	D	A
Knowledge of Project Management tools and techniques	D	A, B

Benefits of Working with Us

We have over 200 dedicated employees who are proud to work for us. Over the last year, we've continued to invest in our people. Whether our people are permanent, or join us for a few months, we genuinely take their health, wellbeing, and development seriously. A full list can be found here:
https://www.rau.ac.uk/about/jobs/benefits-working-us

Application Procedure

If you are interested in applying for this role, please send:

- A University Professional Services Application Form together with the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form available on the University website www.rau.ac.uk) – you may attach your up to date CV if you wish to add additional information
- Please forward to the HR Team, Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 6JS or via email to jobs@rau.ac.uk stating where you saw the advert for the role

Closing date: Monday 6th May 2019 with **Interviews:** on Monday 13th 2019

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