MTU
Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Mumhan
Munster Technological University

Professor of Creative and Cultural Industries



University: Munster Technological University
Faculty: Faculty of Creative and Performing Arts and Media
Reports to: Dean of the Faculty of Creative and Performing Arts and Media
Location: Across MTU Campuses

The Opportunity

Munster Technological University is establishing its first professorial appointments to strengthen research leadership, develop talent and extend the contribution of its research to industry and society. The Professor of Creative Arts and Industries will develop a new interdisciplinary research programme connecting creative practice and artistic research with health, wellbeing, inclusion and social impact.

Creative and Performing Arts, Design and Creative Technologies offer distinctive ways to understand practice-based artistic methodologies, enable participation, community practices and respond dynamically. This appointment offers the opportunity to develop those contributions through rigorous, practice-led research and sustained collaboration with Colleagues, Communities, Professional Organisations and Creative Industries.

MTU provides a foundation of creative expertise across Art, Performance, Design, Media and Creative Technologies, supported by studios, specialist environments and external relationships. Complementary expertise in the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences includes Community Health, Digital Health, Inclusion Health and Integrated Care. Together, these capabilities create opportunities for research that brings materially different disciplines into productive collaboration.

The appointment offers an internationally recognised creative research leader scope to shape an emerging programme, develop researchers and build partnerships. Its central ambition is to turn interdisciplinary potential into sustained research activity, doctoral development, external funding and demonstrable benefit beyond the University.





Purpose and Scope of the Role

The Professor will provide academic and research leadership in Creative Arts and Industries, establishing an interdisciplinary research programme with a defining focus on health, wellbeing, inclusion and social impact.

Research capacity building is central to the appointment. The Professor will combine their own research and creative practice with the development of Colleagues, Doctoral Researchers and collaborative teams. They will connect expertise across Faculties and build a sustainable foundation for externally funded, practice-led and partnership-based research.

The role requires a substantial research record Creative or Performing Arts, Artistic Research, design or a closely aligned field , in the context of health together with experience of practice-led or artistic research methodologies. The successful candidate will demonstrate how creative enquiry can contribute to understanding and addressing health, wellbeing, inclusion or related societal challenges.

Relevant approaches may include participatory and community-engaged arts, performance, inclusive design, creative health, digital and immersive practice, or other forms of creative research. These illustrate possible directions; candidates are not expected to bring expertise across all of them.

Working with colleagues in the Faculty of Creative and Performing Arts and Media, the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences and other relevant areas, the Professor will develop a coherent research direction and collaborations appropriate to it. The programme will connect creative research with external practice and lived experience, generating contributions to knowledge alongside cultural, professional and societal benefit.

Principal Responsibilities

Research and Innovation

- Develop and lead an interdisciplinary research agenda connecting Creative Arts and Industries with health, wellbeing, inclusion, and social impact, as examples.
- Build research capacity by bringing colleagues together around shared research questions, developing collaborative teams and supporting emerging researchers.
- Advance rigorous practice-led and artistic research, contributing to the development and recognition of appropriate methodologies and research outputs.
- Lead competitive funding proposals and secure sustainable external research and innovation income.
- Develop collaborative programmes with academic, creative, technological, cultural, health, social care, community and other relevant partners.
- Produce and disseminate high-quality research and creative outputs appropriate to the field, strengthening MTU's international standing.
- Supervise doctoral researchers to completion and develop interdisciplinary postgraduate and postdoctoral research activity.
- Mentor colleagues in research development, funding applications and the communication of research quality and impact.
- Champion research integrity, ethical partnership working and an inclusive research culture.

Teaching and Learning

- Provide academic leadership in research-informed teaching and contribute to undergraduate, postgraduate and professional education.
- Develop connections between creative practice, artistic research and interdisciplinary learning.

- Contribute to curriculum and programme development informed by research, professional practice and societal needs.
- Create opportunities for students to engage with collaborative research and creative practice across disciplinary and external settings.
- Support the development of practice-led doctoral education and appropriate approaches to supervision and assessment.
- Contribute to academic quality assurance and effective, inclusive and student-centred teaching practices.

Contribution to Society

- Develop partnerships that connect creative research with health, wellbeing, inclusion, participation, and cultural heritage, generating demonstrable benefit for Communities and Professional Practice.
- Support co-designed research with relevant partners and participants, incorporating their expertise and experience into the research process.
- Contribute evidence and creative approaches to the development of practices, services or interventions addressing societal challenges.
- Work with Creative Industries, Cultural Organisations and MTU's innovation and enterprise functions to support knowledge exchange and the application of research.
- Develop opportunities for creative research to contribute to professional innovation, enterprise activity and regional cultural and economic development.
- Communicate research through appropriate public, professional and creative channels, contributing to policy and public discussion where relevant.
- Promote accessible, responsible and inclusive approaches to creative research and engagement.

Contribution to the University

- Contribute to the development and implementation of Faculty and University research priorities, strategies and initiatives.
- Provide collegial academic leadership that connects creative disciplines with Health and Social Sciences alongside other relevant expertise across MTU.
- Develop a coherent interdisciplinary research community and strengthen the University's capacity for practice-led and artistic research.
- Mentor colleagues and emerging research leaders, supporting a positive and inclusive research culture.
- Develop national and international relationships that create opportunities for collaborative research, researcher development and external engagement.
- Contribute to University Committees, academic governance and strategic initiatives appropriate to the role.
- Represent MTU externally and strengthen recognition of its contribution to creative research and societal wellbeing.

Person Specification

The successful candidate will be an internationally recognised research leader in Creative Arts, Artistic Research, Design or a closely aligned field. They will bring a substantial practice-led or artistic research record and the ability to develop a coherent programme connecting creative enquiry with health, wellbeing, inclusion and social impact.

They will demonstrate an ability to work across disciplinary boundaries and develop research through collaboration with external partners. Their achievements will show both research quality and the capacity to develop others, attract funding and translate creative expertise into benefit beyond their own individual practice.

Candidates may bring different creative specialisms and methodologies. A narrowly individual practice, without evidence of research leadership, interdisciplinary collaboration and relevant external impact, will not satisfy the requirements of this appointment.

Essential Criteria

Candidates must demonstrate:

1. *Relevant Qualification* - A doctorate.
2. *Research excellence and standing* - A sustained record of high-quality research and internationally recognised leadership in Creative Arts, Artistic Research, Design or a closely aligned field in the context of health including substantive experience of practice-led or artistic research methodologies.



3. *Research leadership and capacity building* - A demonstrated record of developing research capability through team development, mentoring or collaborative programme leadership, together with the ability to establish and grow an interdisciplinary research programme at MTU.
4. *Competitive research funding* - A successful record of securing external research funding as principal investigator, coordinator or equivalent research lead, and contributing to the effective delivery of funded programmes.
5. *Doctoral and post-doctoral supervision* - Substantial supervision of successful doctoral researchers to completion. Supervision of postdoctoral research staff and other research supporting staff.
6. *Teaching and educational contribution* - Demonstrated ability to contribute effectively to research-informed teaching and learning. Relevant evidence may include undergraduate or postgraduate teaching, doctoral education, professional education, curriculum development or other substantive educational activity.

Desirable Criteria

1. *Interdisciplinary collaboration and thematic relevance* - A record of productive interdisciplinary research and external partnership working, with demonstrable and significant relevance to health, wellbeing, inclusion or related societal challenges. .
2. *Research application and impact* - Evidence that their research has contributed to cultural, societal, professional, health, economic or policy outcomes beyond academic dissemination.
3. *Collegial leadership* - Evidence of working effectively with colleagues, supporting researcher development and contributing to a positive, inclusive research and academic environment.

Evidence of Suitability

Candidates should address each essential criterion in their application, identifying their own contribution and the outcomes achieved.

Relevant research outputs may include publications, performances, exhibitions, compositions, films, designs, digital works or other documented practice-led outputs.

Candidates should explain the research contribution, quality and significance of the work presented.

Evidence of capacity building may include interdisciplinary programmes and teams developed; external funding secured; doctoral completions; mentoring achievements; and the development of collaborative research environments. Candidates are not required to have established a formal research centre.

Evidence of impact may include changes in Professional and/or Creative Practices, Methodological Innovation, Practice, Participation, Accessibility, Community Experience, Health or Wellbeing, Influence on Services or Policy, Cultural Contributions; or Innovation within Creative Industries. Candidates should identify how these outcomes relate to their research.

Leadership in international networks, professional bodies or collaborative initiatives can provide evidence of research standing and influence.

Research quality and impact will be considered in the context of the candidate's discipline, methodologies and contribution. The examples above are illustrative and are not additional mandatory criteria.

Responsibilities and Working Arrangements

The responsibilities of the appointment include Research and Innovation, Teaching and Learning, Contribution to Society and Contribution to the University. Their balance will vary over time according to the University's strategic and operational needs and applicable workload allocation arrangements.

The Professor will undertake other appropriate duties relevant to their skills, competencies and professorial role, maintain their professional development, and comply with relevant university policies and the nationally agreed contract of employment.

Employment Terms

Appointment

- The appointment is full-time and permanent, subject to the terms of the contract of employment.

Salary

- The nationally agreed contract specifies the following salary scale, effective from 1 June 2026: €137,172; €141,988; €146,792; €150,889; €155,208; €159,524; €168,795. The applicable approved scale will apply at appointment, including any subsequent authorised revisions. Starting salary is determined by the rules governing starting pay and pay on promotion and is not subject to negotiation. Incremental progression is subject to relevant university policies and fulfilment of agreed duties.

Probation

- Appointment is subject to a probationary period of 12 months. Confirmation, any continuation of probation and termination during probation are governed by the contract and applicable procedures.

Place of work

- Across MTU Campuses. Regular attendance at other university sites may be required, and appointees must undertake duties at locations reasonably required by the University. In-person attendance is required to discharge the duties of the role. Any remote working arrangement requires approval under the University's Blended Working Policy.

Reporting Relationship

All appointees report to the Dean of the Relevant Faculty. Reporting arrangements are subject to the provisions of the nationally agreed contract.

Annual leave

- Annual leave entitlement is 30 days, inclusive of any compulsory leave days reasonably determined by the University. Leave arrangements must be agreed in advance with the relevant line manager and are subject to university needs and applicable provisions.

Hours and workload

- The appointment is full-time and extends across the 12-month university year. Appointees are required to work the hours reasonably necessary for the proper performance of their duties, taking account of applicable working-time legislation. Remuneration reflects the flexibility required of the role, with no additional payment for additional hours worked. The balance of duties varies according to strategic and operational needs and applicable workload allocation arrangements.

Sick leave and other leave

- Sick leave is governed by the applicable public service sick leave scheme. Other leave entitlements apply in accordance with relevant statutory provisions, university policy and applicable public service arrangements.

Pension

- Membership of the relevant superannuation scheme is compulsory. The applicable scheme, retirement age and pension terms depend on public service rules and the appointee's circumstances. Public service pension abatement provisions may apply where relevant.



Employment Terms

Professional development

- Appointees are expected to maintain their professional development and participate in relevant university development and compliance training.

External activities

- External employment, self employment, working partnerships and consultancy require prior written approval, as specified in the contract.

Academic and professional obligations

- Appointees are subject to contractual provisions on academic freedom, research integrity, confidentiality, data protection and intellectual property, together with relevant university policies and applicable legislation.

Notice

- Subject to the probationary provisions and other contractual exceptions, either party must give at least three months' written notice to terminate employment, unless a shorter period is mutually agreed.

Contractual basis

- The nationally agreed contract of employment governs the appointment. Any separately agreed university support arrangements are subject to their specific terms and approvals.

The University regrets that it cannot pay expenses for candidates attending interviews for this post or for taking up the position, if appointed.



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