The University of Kent is seeking high-calibre candidates to join its governing body, the University Council, as non-executive external members from 1 August 2015.

Kent is a research-intensive university with a strong international profile. We have been placed 17th out of all multi-faculty institutions in the UK for research intensity in the Research Excellence Framework of 2014. We are consistently recognised by students in the National Student Survey as one of the top ten universities in the country for student satisfaction and feature strongly in UK league tables (top 20 in the Guardian). As well as campuses in Canterbury and Medway, we have academic centres in Brussels, Paris, Athens and Rome.

We are looking for outstanding and independent individuals who will help the University consolidate its position as a world-class institution.

Members of the University Council are senior professionals with a track record of achievement who can apply their skills and experiences to the benefit of the University. Council has ultimate responsibility for the University, maintain a high standard of governance and safeguarding its reputation and long-term success. Responsibilities include the approval of key policies and strategies, business decisions and monitoring institutional performance.

Appointments to the Council will be for a term of three years in the first instance with the possibility of renewal. The time commitment is approximately 12 days per year, including five meetings of the Council, membership of a sub-committee and other activities. The appointments are not remunerated but appropriate expenses may be claimed.

The University of Kent is committed to equality, diversity and inclusivity and encourages applications from all sections of society.

To express an interest, please send a CV and a covering letter to: The Secretary to the Council, Council Secretariat, The Registry, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NZ.

For further information or to have an informal conversation please contact the Secretary to Council, Keith Lampard, on 01227 827892 or K.J.Lampard@kent.ac.uk.

Information for applicants
This may be found in the following documents (attached)/websites:

1. University Profile
   http://www.kent.ac.uk/about/keykentfacts.html

2. Members of the Council: Roles and Responsibilities
   http://www.kent.ac.uk/governance/Role+Responsibilities-2015.pdf

3. Council’s Primary Responsibilities for 2014/2015
   http://www.kent.ac.uk/governance/council/terms-of-reference/Primary-responsibilities-2014.pdf
Expressions of interest in appointment to the University Council

It is expected that external/lay members of the Council will have senior level backgrounds and a wide range of experience and expertise to bring to appointment as Council Members. Professional/graduate level qualifications and experience of board level responsibilities are appropriate. These may include more specialist backgrounds in the areas of the Council’s current committees (such as audit, finance and HR) and/or other relevant areas such as business, industry, commerce, management, estates, the Arts and fundraising. Given the University’s national and international role experience at national level and of Europe or wider afield would also be helpful in the Council’s new members. A demonstrable commitment to and an empathy with the University’s objectives of accessible and excellent teaching and research for the public benefit are essential. Residence in Kent or the South-East is not essential provided members are able to fulfil their commitments as members of the Council, any specialist committees to which they are appointed and participate in other appropriate University activities.

Expressions of interest should include a short biography or curriculum vitae, the names and contact details of three referees and a brief statement of why the person concerned wishes to be appointed to the Council. There is no application form.

The Council’s Lay Nominations Committee is responsible for considering the Council’s external/lay membership and for bringing forward recommendations for the appointment/re-appointment of lay members and officers. The appointment of a number of new external/lay members of the Council and its specialist committees will be necessary from 1 August 2015. The Committee will consider expressions of interest at its meeting in June and appointments are expected to be approved by Council in late June 2015.

Expenses

Membership of the Council is not remunerated but the University follows normal Higher Education practice in paying incidental travel/other appropriate expenses incurred by external/lay members in attending meetings in accordance with University rates. The University’s current car mileage rate is £0.45.

Informal enquiries

These should be directed as follows:

Email: council-sec@kent.ac.uk

Tel: 01227 823903/01227 827892

Submissions of interest in appointment to the University’s Council should be submitted to the following by post or email by Friday 29 May 2015:

Dr Keith Lampard, Secretary to the Council
Council Secretariat, The Registry, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NZ

Email: K.J.Lampard@kent.ac.uk

KJL/hap
06.05.2015