

Acting Postgraduate Programme Leader
Mackintosh School of Architecture
Fixed term until 28th June 2019

The Glasgow School of Art (GSA)

The Glasgow School of Art is one of Europe's leading independent university-level institutions for the visual creative disciplines and ranked as one of the world's top 20 institutions for art and design (QS World Subject Rankings 2018). We attract the best academic and creative talent and are committed to creating and sustaining learning and working environments where difference is respected and the widest possible range of cultural and social perspectives are valued. Originally founded in 1845, today we have 2500 students studying across architecture, design, fine art, innovation and simulation and visualisation. Over the past 3 years we have developed new academic programmes, enhanced our areas of expertise and interdisciplinarity and grown our student community in Glasgow by 25%. We continue to grow our research profile and campuses in Singapore and the Scottish Highlands and Islands. Our internationalisation strategy is embedded across our academic programmes and research, connecting the GSA with some of the world's leading universities and specialist higher education institutions. Recognised by the Scottish Funding Council as an independent, specialist institution, the GSA is an important and integral part of Scotland's higher education provision. Working in partnership with universities across Scotland and the UK, our degree programmes are validated by the University of Glasgow. The University of Glasgow has validated our programmes since 1992 and whilst the Senate of the University has ultimate responsibility for the awards, there is maximum delegation to the GSA for its own quality assurance procedures. The School, through its Academic Council, is also responsible for the development, monitoring, evaluation and updating of its academic framework. Our 185 academic staff, 80% of which are research active, form a strong creative community united in the ambition to see the GSA positioned as a global leader in studio based research and teaching, transforming thinking by developing creative approaches with new audiences, locally, nationally and internationally. As one of the UK's largest and most intensive research communities for the visual creative disciplines, GSA's research activity is clustered into the following interdisciplinary themes:

- Architecture, urbanism and the public sphere
- Contemporary art and curating
- Design innovation
- Digital visualisation Education in art, design and architecture
- Health and wellbeing
- Material culture
- Sustainability

Moving forward the GSA has ambitious plans to develop its research profile further through internal collaboration and new partnerships with National and International Organisations. We recognise the distinctive contribution made by visual creative disciplines within the rapidly growing interdisciplinary research agenda and seek to position the GSA as a global leader in this field. This will involve development and mentoring of the GSA's own research talent, recruitment of the best new staff, the securing of higher levels of external research funding to support research projects and further growth in the scale and activity of the GSA's PhD community. While we are firmly

rooted in Glasgow, one of Europe's leading creative cities, we are international in outlook with one of the UK's highest percentages of international students and one of Scotland's largest percentages of students from the rest of the UK.

Our 18-21 Strategic Plan, will help navigate The Glasgow School of Art through the next three years. Central to everything we do, will be collaboration; this will enable us to continue delivering a high-quality educational experience, whilst demonstrating the value of new creative approaches to an ever-changing world. "At the GSA we remain committed to being a focused, small, specialist and independent institution as we know this will give us the agility needed to act in a rapidly changing world. We do, however, recognise the challenges of scale. Keeping abreast with changes in creative practice requires careful planning and financial investment. Equally, dealing with an increasingly complex higher education landscape requires nimble approaches to funding, working, regulation, compliance and governance." - GSA Strategic Plan (2018-2021). During 18-21 our priorities will be:

- Supporting the individual and collective educational experience of our students
- Supporting the creativity and potential of our staff
- Connecting to the contemporary
- Ensuring we continue to thrive

The Mackintosh School of Architecture (MSA)

The MSA is a distinguished school of architecture within an art school of international standing. The University of Glasgow awards our degrees and the School enjoys a good relationship with the university. The city of Glasgow is a source of inspiration to the school, in terms of its architectural and urban achievements, and in the challenges set by its transformation into a creative city with a knowledge based economy fuelled by one of the largest academic communities in the UK. The Glasgow School of Art plays a leading role in the city and the Mackintosh School of Architecture is forging an increasing number of links with its sister schools.

Postgraduate Programmes

Diploma in Architecture

The DipArch provides the necessary educational framework for students, who intend to enter the architectural profession, and confers exemption from Part II of the Examination in Architecture ARB/RIBA and offers an intensive training in the forces acting on building, and the specific skills of the architect. Project-based, it centres on contemporary issues of urban building, the work ranging from live projects and sponsored research to competitions and theoretical studies.

MArch (by Conversion)

The Master of Architecture (conversion) programme is available to DipArch graduates of the school who have achieved a merit or distinction in Stage 5 of their Diploma. The Specialist Study begins with a critical self-appraisal of the stage 5 work, identifies an area for development and the rationale for doing so, and seeks the appropriate means to go forward, refining the selected aspect of the project to a level of sophistication where it can be exhibited in public. The M.Arch (conversion) studio is led by Head of School.

MArch (taught)

The postgraduate programme recruits between 20-30 students a year including currently 4 PhD students. There are currently three MArch programmes:

- M.Arch (conversion) with a duration of 15 weeks full-time or 30 weeks part-time, available to graduating Diploma students as an extension to their diploma studies.
- M.Arch (taught) is free-standing with duration of one year.

The role includes the development of new pathways and programmes and potentially new study modes. These new initiatives include exploring the potential of an extension of the one-year taught M.Arch (urban design) pathway.

The aim of the Master of Architectural Studies (Taught) programme is to enable students to develop a coherent body of work that demonstrates the skills necessary for researching and developing a specialist area of study at Postgraduate level and the title of the award reflects the area of specialisation or Pathway explored through the Individual Research Project:

- Urban Design
- Urban Building
- Digital Creativity
- Energy and Environmental Studies
- History and Theory of the City
- Creative Urban Practices

Students demonstrate a mastery of knowledge in the chosen specialist Pathway; propose and develop a hypothesis and substantiate it through argument that is researched and evidence-based; learn research methods appropriate to the Area of Specialization and apply them selectively, critically and to effect; clarify the issues and themes raised by the Project within a critical perspective related to architecture and to collaborate with fellow students in peer review of the work in progress.

Postgraduate Growth Strategy

The Glasgow School of Art continues strategic development of its postgraduate provision and infrastructure through the Graduate School, building on the embedded Common Academic Framework at postgraduate levels and on the successful expansion in recent years of PGT programmes and PGR students.

The GSA has a well-established taught postgraduate community with long-standing programmes in Architecture, Design, Digital Design and Fine Art as well as a cross-disciplinary, specialist MRes in Creative Practices.

The Postgraduate programmes provide the space to integrate the highest levels of practice-led, studio-based and theoretical approaches, providing opportunities for ambitious students to build on previous undergraduate or professional experience and to reflect on and develop personal practice.

The Role

Job Title	Acting Postgraduate Programme Leader
Location	Mackintosh School of Architecture, Glasgow
Reports to	Head of Mackintosh School of Architecture
Purpose	<p>The PG Programme Leader is a senior position involving academic leadership and management of the Diploma and PG programmes, teaching and research in proportion; 40% programme leadership, 40% teaching and 20% research approximately.</p> <p>To lead and develop a distinctive 'Diploma School' working closely with the Stage Leaders and design tutors in years 4 and 5, and with the Head of School.</p> <p>To lead and develop an innovative PGT portfolio which will attract local, national and international students.</p> <p>To lead and develop the postgraduate programmes in relation to the wider postgraduate community at The Glasgow School of Art, retaining an effective balance between MSA PG research and UG teaching.</p> <p>Responsible for all aspects of the academic development, delivery and management of the programmes; academic and personal support of its students, and for the leadership, management and development of the staff team.</p> <p>Within the DipArch, Stage Leaders are responsible for the effective integration and homogeneity of all subject and studio courses across a year, liaising directly with subject area staff, the Programme Leader will encourage teamwork amongst the staff and may delegate aspects of this role to other members of staff whilst retaining overall responsibility.</p> <p>Within the MArch Studies, Pathway leaders provide specialist expertise and integration, developing and delivering the pathway content.</p>

Key liaisons

- Head of Mackintosh School of Architecture
- Undergraduate Programme Leader
- Academic Support Manager
- Specialist Subject Heads
- Registry and Student Support Services
- Academic and technical students and staff
- Head of Learning and Teaching
- GSA Directorate
- Applicants to programmes of study
- Higher Education Institutions
- Professional and Statutory boards
- Local, national and international peers within Mackintosh School of Architecture
- Local, national and international journalists, curators and critics

Key Accountabilities

General

- Leading and developing a distinctive 'Diploma School';
- Leading and developing an innovative Masters portfolio;
- Leading and developing the MSA postgraduate strategy;
- Developing, maintaining and updating the MSA's Diploma and Postgraduate; programme documentation and oversight of validation arrangements;
- Overseeing the design and development all aspects of the academic content; planning, management and operation of the MSA's postgraduate programmes and their courses;
- Encouraging the development of innovative approaches to programme delivery and ensure that teaching delivery achieves the educational standards of the academic unit;
- Undertake the necessary negotiations internally and externally in order to develop the programmes.

Admissions

- Work with the GSA's Director of Strategy and Marketing to devise and implement a marketing strategy for the Diploma and PG programmes;
- Overseeing coordination of admissions process in liaison with the GSA's Admissions Targets Group , and MSA internal admissions group and the GSA Registry;
- Ensuring that the programmes achieve student target numbers in all categories;
- Ensuring programme content in prospectuses, handbooks, website and other media is updated in liaison with the Registry and Marketing;
- Ensuring an appropriate induction processes for new and returning students.

Curriculum, Learning and Teaching

- Programme integration – ensuring the balance and effective operation of the courses and stages that comprise the Diploma and Postgraduate programmes;
- Ensuring the integration of research, employability and professional skills into the curriculum;
- Overseeing programme delivery including all aspects of learning, teaching and assessment;
- Overseeing scheduling of subject level events and opportunities within overall GSA wide schedule;
- Ensuring that all academic documentation relating to students is up to date, and available as appropriate in liaison MSA's Academic Support Manager.

Student Support

- Ensuring the effective operation of academic and personal support systems;
- Overseeing the learning environment including physical resources and health and safety in relation to student access;
- Overseeing student welfare.

Quality Enhancement

- Develop mechanisms to review and enhance academic provision at diploma, masters and postgraduate level including modes of delivery (full time, part time, distance, international collaborations);
- Overall academic development of the programmes including links to research;
- Active participation/leadership of academic strategic developments including interdisciplinary cross-School and cross-programme initiatives;
- Active engagement with sector wide enhancement initiatives;
- Active engagement with institutional enhancement initiatives such as ELIR.

Quality Assurance

- Ensuring effective operation of student representation and feedback systems/procedures;
- Monitoring of units and student progression;
- Convening the Postgraduate Staff Student Consultative Committee;
- Membership of MSA's Board of Studies and the GSA's Undergraduate & Postgraduate Committee;
- Overseeing annual programme monitoring and periodic reviews;
- Monitoring quality of teaching including recommendations for staff development.

Management

- Development and management of programmes related budgets;
- Ensuring effective management of staff, agreeing job descriptions and person specifications for staff, agreeing appointment process, involvement in key appointments;
- Undertaking career review of academic staff and balancing their workloads.

Key Challenges

- Lead a distinctive Diploma School which creates further opportunities at PG level;
- Help shape the future of the Mackintosh School of Architecture;
- Play an active and creative role in the GSA and the wider creative and professional community of Glasgow;
- Lead the MSA Postgraduate Strategy.

Person Specification

Experience and knowledge

- Educated to Postgraduate degree level or equivalent;
- Excellent understanding of current debates, trends and issues relating to the subject;
- Demonstrable experience of practice, scholarship and research in the domain of Mackintosh School of Architecture;
- Excellent understanding of Learning and Teaching in relation to Architectural practice in Higher Education;
- Experience of working with students at postgraduate level;
- Evidence of management experience in the context of Higher Art Education;
- Active researcher with an established profile in the field and the ability to contribute to the School's research themes;
- Experience of curriculum design and development and quality enhancement/assurance;
- A record of knowledge transfer activities understood as engagement with industry or the public.

Skills

- Strong team-working and collaboration skills;
- Understanding of current debates, trends and issues relating to the subject;
- Strong communication skills;
- Passion for learning and creativity;
- Personal drive and desire to develop new areas of research and educational activity;
- Adaptability and multi-disciplinary outlook to work with staff and students in different Departments across the School;
- Awareness of, and sensitivity to, cultural diversity;
- Commitment to equal opportunities and widening participation.

Terms and Conditions

Contract	Fixed term until 28 th June 2019
Probationary Period	It is recognised that there is an inevitable 'settling in' period in any post. The probationary period is therefore an opportunity for the employee to fit within the culture of the School. It should also be determined during this time whether the job is in line with expectations as expressed in pre-appointment discussions, interview and as set out in the Job Description. The probation period for this role is six months.
Accredited teaching Qualification	It is expected that all members of Academic staff undertake the Postgraduate Certificate in Learning & Teaching within the first two years of employment, unless a qualification at an equivalent level is already held.
Staff Development:	A minimum of five days are guaranteed under HE2000 terms and conditions. However, the School is committed to encouraging staff development for all its employees, which is to the benefit of the individual as well as the Institution as a whole.
Salary	Grade 9 £58,655 - £60,410 per annum
Hours	The nominal hours of the post are 35 hours per week, although the post requires that you may be expected to devote such time to the affairs of the School as is reasonably necessary to ensure the satisfactory smooth running of the School.
Holidays	35 days plus 11 statutory holidays per annum
Pension	Option to join Scottish Public Pensions Agency
Notice Period	One month