

SENIOR FINANCE BUSINESS PARTNER (FACULTY)

Finance, Planning and Governance

Division

ALC1486

CANDIDATE BROCHURE



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WHAT MAKES UEA SO SPECIAL?

The University of East Anglia is a publicly funded major UK research and teaching university. It was built to embody a radical new vision for higher education, where interdisciplinarity is crucial and excellence in both research and teaching is valued. UEA consistently ranks within the top quarter of universities in the UK for the quality of research and teaching.

As a major regional employer and cultural centre, we take our regional civic responsibilities very seriously and have kept our sights on the people and place we call home. In fact, we launched our University Civic Charter in October 2023; created from in-depth community engagement, renewing our commitment to the region as part of our 60th anniversary.

There are many things which make UEA special, not least of which is the community of staff and students that work and study here. UEA includes three Nobel prize winners, including Sir Paul Nurse and Sir Michael Houghton, and many fellows of the Royal Society and British Academy amongst our alumni and current staff.

Our campus is home to Sir Denys Lasdun's iconic brutalist architecture set in hundreds of acres of beautiful country park that includes a large broad (lake). In the spirit of Lasdun's ambition to inspire an anatomy of ideas, today, UEA is tackling some of the key challenges of the changing world. UEA's research combines disciplines

and breaks new boundaries across its priority research themes of climate, creative and health.

UEA is the place where global warming was first documented. Since the 1970s, UEA's Climatic Research Unit, and more recently Tyndall Centre for Climate Change (Headquarters hosted at UEA), have played a pivotal role in developing temperature records and climate models, contributing to the understanding of climate change, and informing global policy. Our Professors Corinne Le Quere, Rachel Warren and Robert Nicholls were recipients of Nobel Peace Prize (2007), awarded to Al Gore and the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) in recognition of efforts to increase public knowledge of anthropogenic climate change. Environmental Science and Global Studies at UEA continue to be a major powerhouse for research and teaching.

UEA is widely regarded as a pioneer in creative writing, having established the UK's first Creative Writing Masters programme in 1970. This renowned programme has since attracted and produced numerous successful writers, including Booker Prize winners such as Ian McEwan and Anne Enright, and Nobel Prize Winner Kazuo Ishiguro. In recent years, UEA academics have played a pivotal role in the discovery and presentation of the Gloucester Royal shipwreck (Norfolk's Mary Rose). Our iconic Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts is a major museum and arts research facility.



Health research at UEA not only embraces the Faculty of Medicine and Health but draws in research from both social and natural sciences. Research under this theme has made major contributions in the fields of healthy ageing, epidemiology and involving citizens (via our innovative Citizens' Academy) in improving health care outcomes. This theme benefits from close association with the other major research institutes on the Norwich Research Park; notably the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital and the Quadram Institute. The Norwich Cancer Research Network, and Norfolk Institute for Healthy Ageing, are examples of key mechanisms for delivery of real impact from health research at UEA.

UEA has been a major success over the last 60 years and looks forward with confidence to the next 60 years.

For an informal discussion about the post please contact Barbara Johnson via barbara.johnson@uea.ac.uk or Tim Smith via tim.smith@uea.ac.uk.

UEA is part of the Norwich Research Park

Norwich Research Park (NRP) membership locates UEA in one of the largest concentrations of research institutes in the whole of Europe – four independent internationally-renowned research institutes: John Innes Centre, Quadram Institute, Earlham Institute and The Sainsbury Laboratory; with the University of East Anglia and Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, supported and funded by The John Innes Foundation, The Gatsby Foundation, and UKRI Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council.

The NRP provides an ideal environment for collaborative use of infrastructure and facilities, with a single portal for academics and businesses to access the specialist facilities across the Park.

The Enterprise Centre is a regional business, knowledge and innovation hub, with workspace provision and supports over 80 businesses working alongside UEA staff and students in a dynamic and vibrant entrepreneurial community. On the wider NRP, there are dedicated laboratory and office spaces in the Innovation Centre and Centrum hosting over 600 staff within a total of 115 businesses and spinouts.



OUR BENEFITS

UEA offers a fantastic benefits package for staff. We recognise all our staff have different priorities and lifestyles so we are continually reviewing our offering to ensure there are benefits which suit everyone. Current benefits include:



Competitive Rates of Pay



30 Days Holiday



14 Additional Statutory and Customary days



Contributory Pension



Staff Development



Sportspark Discount



Research Support



Health and Wellbeing



Library



Campus Facilities



Care Leave Policies



Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts



Ofsted Outstanding Nursery



And much more!

Further information can be found on our [Staff Benefits page](#).

THE ROLE

Through applying the Business Partnering approach and working collaboratively with colleagues and stakeholders, provide a valuable planning and financial management service with efficient and effective financial and business reporting.

To aid decision-making and understanding by providing strategic insight and analysis for the Faculty, and present this information clearly to stakeholder groups.

Ensuring alignment with the University's Long Term Plan, produce five-year financial plans and annual operating budgets for business units within the Faculty, meeting the required financial objectives.

Take responsibility for exercising budgetary control and for the implementation of financial procedures and processes that meet the University's financial and legal regulations. This includes championing the correct application of Procurement regulations within your area.

Lead a Finance Team to ensure that a high quality and customer focussed service is delivered to budget holders and other stakeholders, both internal and external to the University.

Support the Senior Management Team in balancing Faculty needs and aspirations with other financial demands and responsible financial management to support sustainability.

Working closely with colleagues within Finance, Planning and Governance Division to foster a shared sense of purpose and develop integrated strategic objectives and working practices, to ensure the right strategies and resources are in place.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL PLANNING

- By providing specialist advice and guidance, assist the Faculty Pro-Vice Chancellor, Senior Faculty Manager and other Senior Managers, in the development of Faculty and School Business Plans and in the drafting of the Faculty Plan and the Faculty's contribution to the University Corporate Plan.
- Understand the development and maintenance of the supporting financial plans and to manage the financial planning process within the Faculty to ensure that it is well informed, evidence based, and robust.
- Provide high quality financial advice, information and analysis on strategic issues to the Faculty Pro-Vice Chancellor, Senior Faculty Manager, Associate Deans and Heads of School within the Faculty. This will incorporate assisting in the researching of opportunities, and undertaking financial planning, budgeting and forecasting analyses in support of all projects and initiatives in the Faculty.

BUSINESS REPORTING

- Report on performance against financial and other performance indicator targets to ensure that managers at all levels have the appropriate management information to support good financial management and decision making
- Track Faculty performance against financial and other performance indicators and assist in the internal communication of this information.

THE ROLE (CONTINUED)

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- Advise managers on the effective and efficient use of resources within the Faculty, which may include challenging expenditure decisions and will ensure that budgets are developed on the basis of 'need' not 'want', adopting 'zero based' approach.
- Provide expert advice and guidance to Schools, Faculties and colleagues on the interpretation and application of the University's financial regulatory framework to ensure that requirements are met.
- Undertake thorough and comprehensive reviews of income, pay and non-pay costs across all activities, establishing benchmarks to analyse performance.
- Undertake investigations in relation to key business challenges, and to analyse information and data as appropriate, reporting the outcomes and interpreting the implications for Managers and key stakeholders, and assist with the devising action plans to address each challenge.
- Demonstrate leadership of the assigned Finance Team, ensuring the provision of high quality financial advice to budget holders and other stakeholders, including the Faculty Executive Team.
- Develop familiarity with, and facilitate, the smooth running of corporate administrative and financial systems in the Faculty and to ensure the needs of the Faculty are articulated with the development of central and corporate systems.
- Ensure that accurate and up-to-date data is maintained on all financial accounts and financial plans in the Faculty and other areas for which the post holder is responsible.
- Manage the timely preparation of five-year financial plans and annual operating budgets for individual Schools and Centres and on a consolidated

basis for the Faculty.

- Ensure effective communication channels operate to
 - manage the budgetary control position
 - agree the budgetary and student recruitment planning processes
 - agree strategic changes
- Manage robust systems for determining faculty income and of financial control, reviewing and modifying them as necessary in consultation with Senior Finance colleagues
- Provide or facilitate training for academic and administrative staff, for example in promoting best practice and providing briefings on financial management, procurement, business planning and financial regulations.

GENERAL

- Recruit, manage, train and appraise staff in accordance with employment procedures and regulations.
- Manage and utilise resources available to maximum economy, efficiency and effectiveness in accordance with the appropriate guidelines and procedures.
- Abide by the provisions of Data Protection legislation in the handling of staff and student data.
- Undertake such other duties at a comparable level of responsibility as may be agreed from time to time with the Head of Finance Business Partnering and/or Director of Finance.

THE ROLE (CONTINUED)

OTHER

The job holder will be required to be flexible and undertake any other duties according to the needs of the Finance function. This job description is not intended to be an exhaustive list of activities, but rather an outline of the main areas of responsibility. Any reasonable changes will be discussed and agreed with the job holder before any variations to the job description are made.

THE PERSON

EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Professional qualification in Accountancy (CIMA, ACCA, ACA or equivalent) or actively studying at the Professional/Strategic Level (E)
- Proven experience of:
 - Leading and managing a finance team, including fostering a continuous improvement agenda (E)
 - Managing Projects and coordinating input from multiple stakeholders (E)
 - Preparing, monitoring and managing significant budgets within a complex organisation (E)
 - Communicating financial and business information effectively to a wide audience, including non-financial managers (E)
 - Compliance to organisational and professional standards (E)
- Experience of working in Higher Education (D)
- Experience in a Finance Business Partnering role (D)
- Experience of implementing continuous improvement methodologies (D)
- Experience of operating effectively at a senior level in a complex organisation (D)

SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- Excellent numerical and analytical skills – able to research, gather and process data and information, and analyse and interpret results (E)
- Excellent verbal and written interpersonal skills (E)
- Proven interpersonal and influencing skills and the ability to work sensitively with different people's needs and manage difficult situations proficiently. (E)
- Good presentation skills (E)
- Ability to prioritise tasks and co-ordinate the efforts of others to meet deadlines and objectives (E)
- Knowledge of good practice in management accounting and the development and monitoring of budgets (E)
- An understanding of the Business Partner concept and practice (E)
- Knowledge of developing key performance indicators (D)

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- Able to quickly engender trust and credibility amongst key stakeholders and staff at all levels (E)
- Customer focussed and collaborative, while maintaining the ability to make and explain unpopular decisions (E)
- Self-motivated, responsive and flexible, generating a 'can do' culture (E)
- Able to lead, motivate, set work, coach, train and monitor performance of staff (E)
- Articulate, confident and tactful (E)
- Seek and undertake professional development (E)

Essential Requirements (E) are those, without which, a candidate would not be able to do the job.

Desirable Requirements (D) are those which would be useful for the post holder to possess and will be considered when more than one applicant meets the essential requirements.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The post is available from 2 September 2024 on an indefinite full-time basis.

Salary will be £46,974 to £54,395 per annum on Grade 8 on the single salary spine.

Relocation expenses are reimbursable under certain conditions.

Place of Work - The University is supporting a hybrid-working pilot of at home and on campus 'hybrid' working for many roles. We encourage discussions about how your working arrangements can be agreed to best balance the needs of the role and your personal circumstances.

The flexibility of the hybrid-working model allows the possibility of some remote working, but it is the expectation that all appointments will be UK based, with any overseas working agreed in advance by exception only.

If successful you will be asked to show evidence of right to work in the UK prior to any formal offer being made. Non-British and non-Irish nationals entering the UK to undertake employment or who are currently in the UK will have to meet eligibility criteria under the points-based immigration system. The University may be able to provide sponsorship under the Skilled Worker route if relevant criteria are met. Please note, due to the complexities of the immigration system, Skilled Worker visa sponsorship is not guaranteed for every role. If you would like further information about whether this role is eligible for visa sponsorship, please contact staff.visacompliance@uea.ac.uk

The post is superannuable under the Universities Superannuation Scheme and there is an annual holiday entitlement of 30 days plus statutory (8 days) and customary (6 days) holidays. The University is committed to creating an environment where the health, welfare and safety of all students and staff is of paramount importance. The University's Safeguarding Policy addresses both child protection and safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults within the work of the University. Appointment will be subject to satisfactory pre-employment checks, which may include an Occupational Health assessment.

Information on the benefits of working at UEA can be found at <https://www.uea.ac.uk/about/working-at-uea>.

If you require the information contained within this candidate brochure in a different format please email staff.recruitment@uea.ac.uk

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for this vacancy, please follow the online instructions at: <https://vacancies.uea.ac.uk/>

The closing date for this role is 11:59pm on **2 July 2024**.

Please note that the application form contains an Equal Opportunities section which must be completed. The Equal Opportunities information will not be made available to the selection panel and will not form any part of either the short-listing or decision making process.

It is anticipated that presentations and interviews will take place on **12 July 2024** and if you have not heard by this date please assume you have not been shortlisted on this occasion.

Reasonable travel and incidental expenses incurred in attending the interview will be reimbursed (please ensure that you keep all receipts). Please note that if you are offered a post and decline the offer, travel and incidental expenses will not be reimbursed.

ABOUT THE DIVISION

The Finance, Planning and Governance Division has been reshaped through a significant transformation project in 2021. Led by the Director of Finance, the Division focusses its activity through 5 strands, Finance Business Partnering, Systems and Reporting, Financial Accounting, Procurement and Insurance, Planning. Each of these strands has adopted a Business Partnering approach to ensure effective and value adding support to the wider University while continuing to operate as custodians of the University's long term sustainability.

The Finance Business Partnering Team adds value to decision-making and resource management by providing quality financial insight built on sound financial management and reporting. We support the activities and ambitions of the University by identifying, analysing and costing options, and through our commitment to developing the wider understanding of financial information across the organisation.

The Systems and Reporting Team provide, maintain, and develop the University's financial systems. The team provides both statutory and internal management reporting to aid planning and decision making.

The Financial Accounting Team provides operational support to the University through its payroll, cashbook and accounts receivable functions as well as VAT and other tax advice. We also produce the statutory financial statements for the University and its subsidiary companies.

The Procurement and Insurance Service provide support for the operational delivery of business objectives through the Category Management, procurement operations, Insurance and Accounts Payable teams. Overall responsibility for sourcing, protecting and paying for goods, services and assets lies here. The teams support internal customers directly, deliver University wide strategic projects and are the first point of contact for supplier relationship management.

The Planning Team support data quality and reporting for a number of key University processes, provide support for SITS and have overall responsibility for ensuring that the University meets core requirements from HESA/OFS for statutory data submissions. We also perform a monitoring and analysis function for league tables and other external measure of our performance, and support our implementation of external initiatives with a data component, such as the Teaching Excellence Framework and our Access ad Participation Plan (APP).



OUR VALUES

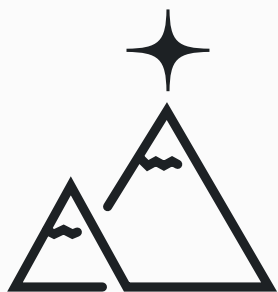
Shaped by staff, our UEA values represent a core set of standards for how we behave as an employer, drive excellence in teaching, learning and research, and collaborate as an anchor institution in our local community.

From tackling global challenges, striving for student and staff success, and creating a vibrant inclusive environment, our values are what unite us.

- ✦ AMBITION
- ✦ COLLABORATION
- ✦ EMPOWERMENT
- ✦ RESPECT



OUR VALUES (CONTINUED)



AMBITION

We are ambitious for our future success.

We are forward-thinking and brave in our approach and decisions. We make space for innovation and creativity, seizing opportunities that are responsible and sustainable. We are ambitious for the advancement of education and research.



COLLABORATION

We are collaborative in our approach.

We work together with shared purpose. We build connections, share ideas and develop new networks. We champion our regional, national and global relationships and demonstrate that together we can achieve greater goals and positively influence the world around us.



EMPOWERMENT

We empower ourselves and each other.

We develop ourselves and others, trusting people to make decisions based on their expertise and knowledge. We continually improve systems and processes to support us in working in an agile and efficient way.



RESPECT

We respect each other.

We treat everyone with respect and dignity. We value diversity and foster a community where people can express different thoughts and views. We are open to challenge, so we can learn and improve. We encourage a positive, inclusive environment where everyone has opportunities to fulfil their potential.

ACCOLADES

- Queen's Anniversary Prizes for Higher and Further Education have been awarded to UEA for international development studies (2009), creative writing (2011) and environmental sciences (2017). Notable alumni include Sir Paul Nurse (1973, Nobel Prize for Medicine 2001), Kazuo Ishiguro (1980, Nobel Prize for Literature 2017), Michael Houghton (1972, Nobel Prize for Medicine 2020) and Sarah Gilbert (1983) who led the Oxford University team to develop a COVID-19 vaccine, approved in 2020.
- Our Doctoral College, established in 2018, hosts six Doctoral Training Partnerships and integrates Faculty and School provision for 1600 Postgraduate Research Students (including those from across the Norwich Research Park), enabling collaboration and innovation.
- We recognise our global impact and were one of the first universities to declare a climate and biodiversity emergency in June 2019. Our sustainable campus, including over 50 acres of environmentally valuable parkland, is constantly evolving with ambitions to be 100% net zero by 2045 or sooner.
- UEA is a University of Sanctuary, an accreditation given to universities that show an ongoing commitment to creating a welcoming culture of inclusivity and awareness.
- UEA was awarded the Silver Athena SWAN Award in 2019, and all our Schools hold awards at Bronze or Silver.

A vibrant place to study, learn and work, UEA is a very special place.



A SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITY

At UEA, we are now working to create a university that will be even better in the future, and we are working to achieve net zero carbon by 2045 (or earlier). Our Sustainable Ways vision is one of a resilient university – where consumption is efficient and self-generated energy supports low carbon goals, supported by a vibrant community of world-leading researchers and inspired graduates.

At a basic level, our sustainable development means that we try to balance the ‘three pillars’ of environmental, economic and social elements.

We challenge our environmental impact through on-site energy generation and a district heating and cooling network, reducing our reliance on grid electricity and therefore fossil fuels. We promote and use recycled and ‘eco’ products such as biological cleaning materials. We champion local suppliers and ethical causes, including Fairtrade and vegan products. We seek to ensure value for money in a holistic, whole-life costing sense in our new buildings and procurement contracts.

OUR INITIATIVES

Central campaigns, such as holiday shut-downs or awareness day events, support a whole-University approach to energy saving and other initiatives.

Follow us on Twitter [@SustainableUEA](https://twitter.com/SustainableUEA)



OUR CAMPUS

UEA is based on a campus that provides top quality academic, social and cultural facilities to over 17,000 students.

Although located in 320 acres of rolling parkland, virtually no part of the campus is more than a few minutes' walk from anywhere else, so everything is close at hand – the library, nursery, health centre, supermarket (incorporating a post office), banking facilities and restaurants. Amongst the striking buildings is the UEA's Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, which contains the Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Collection – one of the greatest art collections formed in Europe during the 20th Century.

The University has invested in new learning and teaching and research spaces, including a celebrated new Enterprise Centre that underpins its commitment to promoting student enterprise and entrepreneurship.

Sport and Recreation plays a major part in the life of the University of East Anglia, centred around the major Sportspark facility which is one of the most successful community sport facilities in the UK. This accessible and affordable facility provides a diverse range of activities, and incorporates a 50m Olympic size swimming pool, indoor climbing wall, coaching resource centre and sports injury clinic.



NORWICH

A CITY OF STORIES

The city's motto is 'A fine city' and its strong cultural heritage has seen Norwich maintain the best of its historical character whilst developing to become one of the most vibrant and attractive cities in Europe. Norwich offers miles of riverside walks and cycle ways, and a unique collection of 1930's parks. The city is surrounded by beautiful countryside and within easy reach of the stunning Norfolk coast.

Norwich is a UNESCO World city of Literature, the first in the UK, as well as being one of the newly named Tech Cities recognising the growth of digital businesses in the region. The most prominent high-rise building, apart from the castle, is the magnificent 11th century cathedral, which still dominates the skyline. The city's medieval centre of cobbled streets remains largely intact, but there is still space for modern buildings such as the city's centrepiece, the Forum, which is a striking piece of contemporary architecture. The glass front overlooks the colourful open-air market (one of the largest in the country) and reflects the city in all its diversity.

The city is consistently rated as one of the top ten shopping venues in the UK. Norfolk and Suffolk attract thousands of visitors each summer. The famous Norfolk Broads are among the most important wetlands in Europe and a haven for rare plants, wildlife and insects. The Broads attract holidaymakers who come to navigate the intricate natural network of waterways formed by the Rivers Bure, Yare and Waveney and their tributaries.

For further information about UEA's excellent facilities, staff benefits, picturesque campus and the UEA working environment, please visit the 'Careers at UEA' microsite <https://www.uea.ac.uk/about/working-at-uea>. Additional information about living and working in the city of Norwich can be found at <https://www.workinnorwich.co.uk/>



If there is another city in the United Kingdom with a school of painters named after it, a matchless modern art gallery, a university with a reputation for literary excellence which can boast Booker Prize-winning alumni, one of the grandest Romanesque cathedrals in the world, an extraordinary new state-of-the-art public library then I have yet to hear of it. Norwich is a fine city. None finer.

STEPHEN FRY



LOCATION

Some cities you've heard of, others you have to discover. Norwich is one of the most beautiful, modern historic cities in Britain. It's a city that celebrates the independent, stimulates creativity, promotes change and encourages diversity.

UEA is a campus university located 3 miles from the centre of Norwich. Situated in the heart of Norfolk, which means it's an ideal location to explore Norwich and beyond.

BY RAIL

LONDON • 2 HOURS

CAMBRIDGE • 1 HR 15 MINS

BIRMINGHAM • 4 HOURS

Many European cities (including Paris and Amsterdam) easily accessible by train

BY ROAD

KINGS LYNN • 1 HOUR

CROMER • 45 MINUTES

SOUTHWOLD • 1 HOUR

BY AIR

NORWICH AIRPORT • 20 MINUTES

STANSTED AIRPORT • 2 HOURS

London is a major airline hub and all main international destinations are easily accessible



An internationally renowned university, UEA is ranked in the UK Top 30 (The Times/Sunday Times 2024, Guardian University Guide 2023 and Complete University Guide 2023) and the World Top 50 (Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2023), where it ranks in the World Top 100 for research citations (Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2023), reflecting the international excellence of its research environment. The University holds UK Teaching Excellence Framework Silver status.

Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Wellbeing

The University is committed to diversifying its workforce and to the wellbeing of all our staff. For example, we already hold an Athena Swan Silver Institutional Award in recognition of our advancement towards gender equality. Further details on our broader Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Wellbeing work can be found on our [website](#).

