

Nominee

Name	Job Title	Department/Section
Vicki Graves	Faculty Operations Manager	Office of the Faculty of Science and Health

Nominee Personal Statement

Since joining Essex in 2015, I have worked collaboratively with academics, professional services staff and technicians across almost all academic departments and central functions. I am proud to be part of a community that transforms lives and want to join Council as a Professional Services member to safeguard Essex's future so we can continue to make the world a better place. I am a parent, neurodivergent and, like many of our graduates, was the first in my family to go to university (securing a First Class BA in English Literature from Lancaster). I am also undertaking a Level 7 inclusive senior leadership qualification with the Chartered Management Institute.

I am currently Faculty Operations Manager within the Faculty of Science and Health; I resolve complex challenges through two-way communications, unblocking issues and brokering solutions to enable strategy delivery. My remit spans systems, processes, health and safety, strategic and operational planning, change and transformation and projects, requiring careful judgement and balancing competing priorities and resources.

Previously, I was part of the Technician Commitment leadership team, increasing the visibility, recognition and career development of Essex technical staff. I have also managed the Essex Business School Accreditation Team and budget, with responsibility for international and programme accreditation, working with external partners and senior leadership. This strengthened my understanding of governance and regulatory frameworks, quality assurance and reputational risk. Earlier in my career, I worked in marketing and public relations roles within fast-paced private sector organisations.

Should I be appointed, I would bring a collaborative, evidence-led and curious approach. You can rely on well-developed judgment and independence of thought to achieve organisational goals during challenging times. I will draw upon my grounded understanding of how governance decisions translate into operational impact, acting in the best interests of the University as a whole to ensure its short, medium and long-term sustainability.