Professor Heather Laurie MBE, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)

Role of Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor Research is a member of the University's executive leadership team and plays a central role in the development and implementation of the University's Strategic Plan.

Professor Laurie is responsible for developing the University’s research strategy (including the dissemination and application of the University’s research through knowledge transfer activities, and consultancy), and for ensuring the effective implementation of the strategy.

She also represents the University nationally and internationally in relation to research issues, raising the profile and reputation of the University and influencing national and international policies and agendas in this area.

She spends 20 per cent of her time undertaking research at the highest level and maintaining and developing her research career.

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor Research is a member of the University Steering Group, Resources Committee and Senate, and is one of the University's disability diversity champions.

To make an appointment to see Professor Laurie, please contact Rebekah Davis or Abi Lower on 01206 874079 or email pa2prov@essex.ac.uk

Duties of Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)

1. To work as a key member of the University’s executive leadership team, playing a central role in the development and implementation of the University’s Strategic Plan.

2. To develop and implement coherent strategies and policies (including research leave policy) that will deliver consistent improvements in the University’s research quality and intensity, and in the effectiveness and impact of its knowledge transfer and consultancy activities.

3. To ensure that that the University meets the key performance indicators relating to research that are set out in its Strategic Plan.

4. To lead and co-ordinate the University’s preparations for, and submissions to, external evaluations of research quality, in order to maintain and enhance the University’s current national and international standing for research quality.

5. Working closely with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and the Executive Deans of Faculty, to develop and implement policies that increase institutional levels of research intensity.
6. To provide strategic academic leadership for the development of a culture, policies and processes that support the increase of research grant income, and diversification of the sources of research income.

7. To work with the PVC - Education to ensure that the University’s commitment to research-led education maximises the benefit to the student learning experience of the University’s research excellence.

8. To lead the development of a culture, policies and practices that encourage and facilitate the translation of the University’s research into knowledge that supports external organisations, and society more widely.

9. To ensure that the infrastructure and resources provided to support research are fit for purpose and support the maintenance and enhancement of research quality, and increases in research intensity.

10. To work with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and the Executive Deans of Faculty to develop and implement policies and processes that ensure that the University attracts, develops and retains researchers of the highest quality, and monitors and manages research performance effectively.

11. To develop and ensure the effective implementation of University policies and procedures relating to research ethics.

12. To act as the institutional lead for the development of national and international academic partnerships that include any elements of research or knowledge transfer activity, and to take lead institutional responsibility for the oversight and management of the research and/or knowledge transfer elements of any such partnerships once they are established.

13. To represent the University nationally and internationally in relation to research issues, raising the profile and reputation of the University and influencing on behalf of the University national and international policies and agendas in this area.

14. To chair relevant sub-committees of Senate concerned with the University’s research and knowledge transfer activities.

15. To undertake research at the highest level as a member of an appropriate department within the University.

16. To take a leadership role on other institutional issues and projects assigned by the Vice-Chancellor.

17. To undertake any other duties as are assigned from time to time by the Vice-Chancellor.