



DIRECTOR: RESEARCH CONTRACTS & INNOVATION

(Payclass 13(4); Permanent)

Research Contracts & Innovation

The University of Cape Town has a very large and diverse research portfolio with a strong local and international reputation in terms of impact, and seeks to fill the position of Director, Research Contracts and Innovation (RC&I). The Director, Research Contracts & Innovation (RC&I), reports to the Deputy Vice Chancellor responsible for Research & Internationalisation. RC&I has two important functions:

- Supporting UCT's research activities by centrally managing, authorising, and negotiating research contracts, research-related extension contracts entered into with our wide variety of funders; and
- Fulfilling the role of a technology transfer office (TTO) and commercialising the university's research outputs to stimulate the growth of the South African economy, foster small business development, and transform society for social, commercial, and environmental benefit.

The director oversees the activities of a team of Legal Advisors and support staff responsible for the formal drafting, negotiating, and finalising of complex sponsored research agreements, collaboration agreements, confidentiality agreements, license agreements, and material transfer agreements as they relate to research and research-related contracts. The incumbent must ensure that proper administrative processes are in place as it relates to the processing of contracts and downstream and upstream processes related to that. In addition, the incumbent must ensure that the University has the necessary policies, processes, and structures in place to comply with relevant legislation (local and international), funders' terms and conditions, and other such activities so that the University's risk profile is not compromised.

The director leads all aspects of the technology transfer operations, overseeing the activities of a team that is focused on Intellectual Property (IP) management and IP commercialization. The activities include, among others, strategic planning, intellectual property identification, patenting, marketing, and commercialization through licensing and company formation.

The director must ensure that RC&I lives up to its vision, i.e. to be recognized and acknowledged by our research community, industry, government, and international collaborators as a committed partner and service provider in ensuring that the research and development efforts of the researchers at UCT have an opportunity to result in outcomes which will benefit society in its broadest sense.

For detailed information on this post, please view the job description on the following link: ([view](#))

To view and apply for this position, please visit the UCT Jobs site [View](#) (For Internal Applicants) and [View](#) (For external Applicants) to create a profile and to submit your application.

Closing date: 05 March 2025

Reference:

ID959

UCT is a designated employer and is committed to the pursuit of excellence, diversity and redress in achieving its equity targets in accordance with the Employment Equity Plan of the University and its Employment Equity goals and targets. Preference will be given to candidates from the under-represented designated groups. Our Employment Equity Policy is available at www.hr.uct.ac.za/hr/policies/employ_equity

UCT reserves the right not to appoint.