

Call for Super Champion- KE Professional

Closing date: 29th August 2023

The new UK Knowledge Exchange Hub for Mathematical Sciences (KE Hub) is looking for a KE Professional to join a small team of KE Super Champions to play leading roles in delivering Knowledge Exchange activity.

The KE Hub has been developed as a response to the Bond "Era of Mathematics" review, which recommended that "a national centre in impactful mathematics for the UK should be created to work with industry and government to drive mathematical research through to commercialisation". The KE Hub's long-term aims are to (i) massively scale up KE activity in the UK, leveraging the experience of the mathematical sciences national infrastructure, (ii) connect together researchers, practitioners, end-users, and professionals into forums which interface with the various activities, (iii) support existing KE activity in the community whilst growing the network by nurturing untapped pools of researchers, practitioners, and end users, (iv) deliver activities through linked projects overseen by the executive team, and (v) coordinate support for mathematical science KE projects from beginning to end.

Through a series of linked projects the KE Hub will amplify the voice of practitioners and end-users, increase mobility, create capacity, develop skills, share good practice for low-risk, high-reward entry points in KE, and broker connections.

The KE Hub's initial activities include establishing a KE Champions' congress, offering seed funding for some KE activities, and providing easy-to-access signposting of opportunities to engage in KE activities, in order to benefit Mathematical Sciences departments across the UK.

To support these initial activities, the KE Hub intends to establish a small team of part-time KE "Super Champions" who will play leading roles in the KE Hub delivery. Based around the country, and forming a network of established mathematical scientists who are experienced and practiced in knowledge exchange, these "Super Champions" will:

- Mentor KE Champions
- Lead KE-Hub projects
- Devise and deliver KE training
- Engage in flagship KE activities supported by the KE Hub
- Meet regularly to share ideas and best practice

Super Champions will be expected to dedicate half a day per week, on average to these activities.

As part of our team of Super Champions, we are looking to appoint a KE professional to lead the KE Hub project to draw together mathematical science KE professionals from across the UK and run a KE Professionals' Forum. Funding will be provided either on a contract basis for independent candidates or as a buy-out to an employer. The maximum funding available is £15k per annum. A contract and payment schedule will be agreed between the candidate and the Isaac Newton Institute which holds the grant for the KE Hub.

The successful candidate will have:

- Experience as a KE Professional
- Expertise in mathematical sciences
- Experience of knowledge exchange activities, preferably with business, government and industry.
- Knowledge of creating or managing a network
- Excellent communication skills
- The ability to work as part of a team
- Demonstrable leadership skills

We particularly encourage women and /or candidates from a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic background to apply as they are currently under-represented at this level within the mathematical sciences KE landscape.

To apply, please send applications to the KE Hub Scientific Director, Chris Breward, using kehub@newton.ac.uk. Application materials should include:

- (i) A video, lasting no longer than five minutes, explaining how your skills and experiences make you the ideal candidate, paying particular attention to the candidate specification above
- (ii) A cover letter containing a link to the video
- (iii) A CV detailing in particular your KE activities
- (iv) If you are based in an organisation, a letter of support from your line manager including a statement that they will make provision for you to spend 10% of your time on KE-Hub work by reducing your workload elsewhere.

The closing date for applications is **Tuesday 29th August 2023**. Video submissions are in place of interviews. Individuals will be notified of the outcome of their application in early September 2023. We aim for the Super-Champions to be in post by October 2023 and funding will be provided for one year in the first instance. There may be the possibility of reappointment, subject to the availability of funding and satisfactory engagement.

Informal questions/conversations are welcome and can be directed to Chris Breward, kehub@newton.ac.uk