

The Alan Turing Institute

DIRECTOR OF SCIENCE AND INNOVATION (FUNDAMENTAL)

THE ALAN TURING INSTITUTE

There has never been a more significant time to work in data science and AI. There is recognition of the importance of these technologies to our economic and social future: the so-called fourth industrial revolution. The technical challenge of keeping our data secure and private has grown in its urgency and importance. At the same time, voices from academia, industry, and government are coming together to debate how these technologies should be governed and managed.

The Alan Turing Institute, as the UK's national institute for data science and artificial intelligence, plays an important part in driving forward advances in these technologies in order to change the world for the better.

The Institute is named in honour of Alan Turing, whose pioneering work in theoretical and applied mathematics, engineering and computing is considered to have laid the foundations for modern-day data science and artificial intelligence. The Institute's purpose is to make great leaps in data science and AI research to change the world for the better. Its goals are to advance world-class research and apply it to national and global challenges, build skills for the future by contributing to training people across sectors and career stages, and drive an informed public conversation by providing balanced and evidence-based views on data science and AI.

After launching in 2015 with government funding from EPSRC and five founding universities, the Institute has grown an extensive network of university partners from across the UK and launched a number of major partnerships with industry, public and third sector. Today it is home to more than 500 researchers, a rapidly growing team of in-house research software engineers and data scientists and a business team.

BACKGROUND

Join us as we define a new era for The Alan Turing Institute. With renewed energy and focus, we will pursue our purpose to make great leaps in data science and AI in order to change the world for the better.

We have three ambitious interconnected goals:

- Advance world-class research and apply it to national and global challenges.
- Build skills for the future.
- Drive an informed public conversation.

At the heart of our work is fundamental research. Now more than ever we must advance our efforts to maintain and develop the foundations of world-class data science and AI research. The Institute's capabilities in fundamental data science and AI will be crucial to our ambition to create an end-to-end interdisciplinary pathway and power progress towards the Institute's grand challenges in health, defence & security, and environment & sustainability.

We are now looking for an ambitious and inspirational leader, to drive the Institute's capabilities in fundamental data science and AI.

Reporting to the Institute's Chief Scientist, this role will form part of the Science and Innovation leadership team and will take collective responsibility for delivering impact at scale in alignment with our vision for Turing 2.0.

YOUR PROFILE

We are seeking a diverse set of Directors of Science and Innovation and are interested to hear from candidates with experience and successes both within the norms of academia and traditional research environments and outside.

The ideal candidate will be an effective leader with the ability of taking vision into execution.

The Alan Turing Institute

Collaborative by nature you will be delivering real-world impact in terms of science and innovation, building skills for the future and helping to drive an informed conversation around this fast-moving technology.

You will take on an enabling role, helping to make big things happen for the UK and the Turing by removing existing barriers to use data science and AI to solve some of the most pressing challenges.

DUTIES AND AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Providing leadership

- Lead and motivate an agile team with responsibility for developing, dynamically communicating, and implementing action plans, that deliver against the grand challenges and associated missions in line with the Institute's strategy.
- Lead innovative world-leading science and innovation that delivers impact nationally and internationally with and for academic, industry, the public and third sector, achieving wide-ranging public and societal benefit.
- Working together as a team to provide joined up leadership across the science and innovation agenda, identifying synergies and delivering cross cutting impactful projects collaboratively.

Working with stakeholders

- Develop new and nurture strategic external relationships with partner organisations in academia, industry, the public and third sector:
 - Identify, secure and develop additional sources of funding / resources to grow each of the areas seeking out leverage opportunities for sustainable long-term funding from partner and philanthropic sources
 - Develop new lines of world-leading science and innovation in support of the missions
 - Develop new opportunities for significant economic and societal impact
 - Expand and complement the existing strengths and impacts of the Turing community
 - Foster 'data with no boundaries' engaging internationally to ensure that the UK's strengths in data and AI ultimately have global impact
 - Maximise the external visibility and impact of the Institute's work
 - Ensure a consideration of measuring impact is built into science and innovation activity from the outset and that the external visibility of the Institute's work is maximised.

Developing culture

- Deliver and facilitate an environment where world-class interdisciplinary science and innovation can thrive and be translated into real-world impact
- Promote the Institute's vision, purpose and values to colleagues and stakeholders internally and externally
- Act as a role model, in alignment with Turing values, identifying, encouraging and developing talent and innovative ideas within the organisation

Act as a figurehead

- Represent the Institute at the highest levels of academia, industry, the public and third sector, as well as other appropriate organisations and stakeholders.
- Be a public voice for the Institute helping to drive the conversation regarding safe, ethical and responsible development and adoption of data science and AI in industry, the public and third sector, as well as society more broadly.
- Act as an informed national voice for your specialism, working with media, events and other public platforms to drive thought leadership.

The Alan Turing Institute

Please note that job descriptions cannot be exhaustive, and the postholder may be required to undertake other duties, which are broadly in line with the above key responsibilities. This job description is written at a specific time and is subject to changes as the demands of the Institute and the role develop.

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PERSON SPECIFICATION		
Skills and Requirements Post holders will be expected to demonstrate the following:	Essential (E) Desirable (D)	Tested at application (a) Tested at interview (i)
Education/Qualification		
Record of world-leading excellence in an academic, government and/or industrial setting, in the field of data science and/or AI	E	A,I
Knowledge and Experience		
Extensive experience in strategic domain areas of fundamental data science and/or AI either gained through experience in industry or in academia	E	A
Proven leadership track record across research and innovation programmes either in an academic or commercial organisation	E	A,I
In depth understanding of the national data science and AI landscape	E	A,I
Evidenced winning, leading, and successfully delivering large research and innovation grants, including leveraging new streams of funding, from prestigious funders/organisations of national and international relevance	E	A,I
Demonstrable ability to build and develop effective working relationships with partner organisations (academia, commercial, public and third sectors), and work with a diverse set of stakeholders to deliver impact at scale	E	A,I
Strong scientific track record evidenced by senior authorship of publications in prestigious international journals	E	A
Experienced and credible high-profile spokesperson for media and other stakeholders on scientific and innovation issues	D	A,I
Proven experience obtain funding, demonstrating entrepreneurship and innovation	E	A,I
Experience in senior management role with line/matrix management experience and responsibility for managing an organisation's financial health	E	A,I
Communication		
Ability to translate vision into execution	E	I
Liaison and Networking		
Establish strategic and long-lasting relationships with national and international stakeholders	E	I
Strategy and Project Delivery		

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Experience developing and implementing long term strategic plans typically 3-5.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anticipates change and can navigate uncertainty. - Identifies solutions that bring wider and longer-term benefits for the organisation and potentially external partners. - 	E	I
Initiative and Problem Solving		
Identifies solutions that bring wider and longer-term benefits for the organisation and potentially external partners.	E	I
Analysis and Research		
Challenges the status quo and provides mechanisms and approaches to explore new possibilities or explanations	E	I
Team Development		
Experience of leading and managing diverse functional teams and developing a 'one team' culture	E	I
Other Requirements		
Commitment to EDI principles and to The Turing values	E	I
Ability to deliver under uncertainty, enabling progression of projects by mapping out risks/benefits of potential solutions to arising problems	E	I

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OUR VALUES

The Alan Turing Institute is committed to equality diversity and inclusion and to eliminating discrimination. All employees are expected to embrace, follow and promote our [EDI Principles](#) and Our [Values](#).

Our values

- Trust**
We create an environment where we have trust and can be trusted
- Inclusion**
We expect our Turing community to contribute to a culture that is inclusive and free of barriers
- Respect**
We all have different roles, priorities and challenges but our shared purpose is the same
- Leadership**
Leadership is everyone's business; Turing leaders set the right tone and lead by example
- Transparency**
Everyone should understand the how and the why of our decisions and actions
- Integrity**
We are all ambassadors for the Turing's mission of changing the world for the better

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

If you are interested in this opportunity, please click the apply button below. You will need to register on the applicant portal and complete the application form including your CV and covering letter. If you have questions about the role or would like to apply using a different format, please contact recruitment@turing.ac.uk.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 31 October 2023

The Alan Turing Institute

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The roles will be appointed on a permanent basis, or alternatively could be for a minimum of a fixed term of 5 years.

In exceptional circumstances we can accommodate secondments on an interim basis before engaging in a permanent employment contract. You must be willing to commit at least 80% of your time to the Turing with a maximum of 20% of your time working on non-conflicting activities at your home organisation.

The Institute is headquartered in Kings Cross, London and so while we operate a hybrid working model you will be expected to spend time there each month to connect to your peer group and to work with teams across the Institute.

The annual salary is competitive with excellent benefits, including flexible working and family friendly policies, <https://www.turing.ac.uk/work-turing/why-work-turing/employee-benefits>

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The Alan Turing Institute is committed to creating an environment where diversity is valued and everyone is treated fairly. In accordance with the Equality Act, we welcome applications from anyone who meets the specific criteria of the post regardless of age, disability, ethnicity, gender reassignment, marital or civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

We are committed to building a diverse community and would like our leadership team to reflect this. We therefore welcome applications from the broadest spectrum of backgrounds.

We are committed to making sure our recruitment process is accessible and inclusive. This includes making reasonable adjustments for candidates who have a disability or long-term condition. Please contact us at adjustments@turing.ac.uk to find out how we can assist you.

Please note all offers of employment are subject to obtaining and retaining the right to work in the UK and satisfactory pre-employment security screening which includes a DBS Check.

Full details on the pre-employment screening process can be requested from HR@turing.ac.uk.