CHAIR/CO-CHAIRS – CULTURAL DIVERSITY GROUP

We are looking for a Chair or Co-Chairs for the Cultural Diversity Group.

The Cultural Diversity Group is a staff network open to anyone who is interested in, or has experience of, how race and ethnicity might influence the experience of staff or students at the University of Reading. Current membership runs to around 45 staff from across the University, from Professional Services and Academic Schools, with a wide range of backgrounds and experiences.

The group meets once per term for discussion, learning and networking. Topics to date have included the Black and Minority Ethnicity Attainment gap, cultural competence vs intercultural confidence and ways to celebrate cultural diversity at the University. The Cultural Diversity Group is also consulted in the development of Race Equality Action Plan, and is represented on the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Board alongside the LGBT+ network, women@Reading and the staff disability network.

We are now looking for someone, or indeed more than one someone, to be the formal chair(s) of this group. Expressions of interest should indicate why you would like to be a Co-Chair? What you would bring to the role? What you would like to achieve? When could you start?

Very much the role(s) will be shaped by the role holder(s), working with the membership. We emphasise that the Chair or Co-Chairs do not have to lead or be involved in every event, they can and should delegate stuff to other members; and that there is considerable admin exec support from the VC’s Office for many of these events, and assistance and support from Ellie (as the Dean for D&I leading on race and ethnicity).

This network is relatively new, but we would like it to become more active, and indeed this is an opportunity to shape further the discussions and activities towards race equality at Reading. In recognition of this the central University will seek through Ellie, working with the local line managers, to make available up to 0.2FTE total out of regular employment in order to give time and space to carry out the role effectively. Leadership of this group can be used as evidence of citizenship in personal titles promotion applications, and of working together and supporting others in personal development.

If you are interested in an informal conversation before you apply, please get in touch with Ellie Highwood (e.j.highwood@reading.ac.uk). Deadline for expressions of interest as either a Chair or Co-Chair is Friday 7 December 2018.