Position Vacancy

Director of Academic Unit

IIJ Background

Located in beautiful historic Malta, the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (the IIJ) is a leading international hub for sustainable rule-based training and cross-cutting capacity building for criminal justice sector stakeholders in Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and Asia.

The IIJ was formed in 2014 with a governing board of 12 countries and the European Union to enhance the competencies of lawmakers, police, prosecutors, judges, corrections officials, and other criminal justice sector stakeholders to address terrorism and related transnational criminal activities within a rule of law framework. As a key international institution in the field, the IIJ works tirelessly to enhance cooperation and information exchange among relevant authorities at the national, regional and international levels.

Academic Unit Background

The IIJ has developed a reputation for impact training for practitioners challenged with fast evolving threats to international security. Since its inception in June 2014, more than 5000 judges, prosecutors, investigators, parliamentarians, and other criminal justice practitioners from 123 countries have participated in over 150 IIJ programs. Following this success, the IIJ is now launching a one-of-a-kind Academic Unit to provide in-depth courses to criminal justice practitioners aimed at filling critical knowledge gaps necessary for successfully countering terrorism and transnational crime. Once fully operational, the Academic Unit will make a major contribution to the IIJ’s ecosystem of learning through foundational education and provide a resource for maintaining and expanding specialist knowledge in target areas.

Position

Leveraging a track record of distinguished management, administration, and teaching, the Director will guide the development of the new Academic Unit to international renown. The Director's deep commitment to student success, faculty development and scholarly engagement will position IIJ’s Academic Unit to achieve the status of an international centre of excellence for criminal justice practitioner education over the coming years.
Working under the direct supervision of the IIJ Executive Director, the successful candidate will become the first Director of the Unit, and as such will have the exciting opportunity to shape the Unit during its formative years. The Academic Director will have the full scope of responsibilities that should be expected for launching and growing the Unit, including overseeing recruitment and enrollment management, curriculum development, research agenda, accreditation, effective programme monitoring and evaluation.

The Director will also be expected to personally take part in courses, delivering lectures and leading modules as needs dictate. Over time, the Unit will be expected to contribute a body of scholarship to the field, and in addition to leading that effort, the Director will be expected to author/co-author academic and other research publications.

The position of Academic Unit Director is an exciting opportunity for someone with the desire to craft the cutting edge of counter-terrorism education for criminal justice practitioners. As such, the position requires passion for contributing to the fight against terrorism and a desire to be on the front lines of building the capacities of practitioners to address the evolving terrorism threat environment through a rule of law-based framework.

**Qualifications**

The successful candidate will demonstrate the organizational and leadership skills necessary to attract and retain talent, and manage financial resources and the student composition necessary for maximum impact. The ideal candidate should have a sophisticated understanding of the changing landscape of terrorism and the associated criminal justice challenges facing practitioners within the IIJ’s target geographic regions.

The ideal candidate will have both strong practitioner-related experience and also solid demonstrable teaching experience, including designing and executing complex, multi-method courses (e.g. a practitioner turned academic). A strong legal practitioner/educator foundation, including significant publications, would be highly desirable. An appreciation for the nuances of varying legal systems (common, civil, religious, hybrid) in the context of counter-terrorism would also be desirable as target audiences will have heterogeneous backgrounds in this regard.

The ideal candidate will have an entrepreneurial spirit and be very comfortable leading a multi-cultural team. As the Director will be interfacing with stakeholders from all over the world, excellent cross-cultural communication skills are essential. We are looking for an energetic and dynamic individual, so applicants are strongly encouraged to highlight any rare or unique combinations of experience that help them stand out – show us why you are special, your personal value proposition.

**It is essential to address the following:**

- **Academic/teaching/training qualifications:**
  - Demonstrate why you are qualified to design and administer courses and teach at this level. Have you ever been involved with curriculum development? Have you trained practitioners? Lectured at university? Designed creative workshops? Are you a professor?
  - It would be preferable if you had a PhD/JD in law, criminology, criminal justice, or a related discipline, and a body of relevant academic publications.
• **Practitioner qualifications:**
  - Since your students will be primarily mid-level practitioners, and the learning outcomes should be directly applicable to their work, it would be highly desirable if you were a current or former criminal justice practitioner (e.g. law enforcement, prosecutor, judge, etc.).
  - If you would not classify yourself as a current/former ‘practitioner’ per se, demonstrate how your experience with ‘practitioners’ should otherwise qualify you for this position.
  - The IIJ works with stakeholders from civil law, common law and hybrid legal systems, so share with us your experience in that regard.
  - Please highlight any relevant counter-terrorism experience.

• **International experience:**
  - As mentioned above, you need to be comfortable working and collaborating in an international environment.
  - Demonstrate how your international experience should give us confidence in your ability to lead the Unit (e.g. work at a similar international or regional organisation or equivalent experience (e.g. diplomat). Experience in training officials from other countries is also desirable.

• **Language:**
  - The only required language is English (i.e. at the level of leading academic/technical discussions and writing an academic paper with a limited number of grammatical errors). French and/or Arabic language skills are desirable. Indicate your fluency level.

The position of Academic Unit Director will be established at the same level of two current Directors: Director of Programs, and Director for Administration and Outreach. It will be important for the Academic Unit Director, the Director of Programs, and the Director of Administration and Outreach to coordinate and collaborate effectively, along with – and under the overall supervision of – the Executive Secretary.

**Cover Letter:**

Please focus your cover letter on answering two central questions:

*What about this position is attractive to you in this stage of your career?*

*What are two things missing or under-emphasised in your CV that you, for whatever reason, could not express in the format of your CV?*

Please be succinct and keep total wordcount to max. 500 words.

**Deadline:**

All interested applicants meeting the qualifications should submit a cover letter and resume/CV as soon as possible to the IIJ Executive Secretariat at BUNYANM@THEIIJ.ORG and by no later than 15 November 2019, clearly stating “DIR_AU2019” in the subject line.