

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title	Associate Director, Data Science & Artificial Intelligence Initiative		
Reports to	Academic Co-Directors		
Department	Data Science & Artificial Intelligence Initiative		
Job Family	Relationship	Level	5

About the School

At London Business School, we strive to have a profound impact on the way the world does business and the way business impacts the world. Our departments work hard to ensure that we are continually delivering a world-class service, academic excellence and that our course offering maintains our place as a leading business school.

With thought-leading faculty and dynamic learning solutions, we empower both businesses and individuals by offering a transformational learning experience that will broaden their professional knowledge and global mindset. As well as offering postgraduate courses for the business leaders of the future, we run open and customised executive courses for professionals and corporate clients that help leaders identify the future focus and strategic direction of their businesses.

With London in our hearts, we draw from its status as a financial, entrepreneurial and cultural hub to attract a diverse range of students and faculty, creating an abundance of opportunities to network with industry experts and alumni worldwide.

About the Department

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The Data Science & Artificial Intelligence Initiative at London Business School is the School's interdisciplinary hub for understanding how data, analytics, and artificial intelligence (AI) are transforming business, management education, and society. Co-directed by Professors Nicos Savva and Keyvan Vakili, the Initiative brings together world-class faculty across Strategy, Operations, Economics, Marketing, Finance, Accounting, and Organisational Behaviour to deliver a uniquely holistic business perspective on AI and data science.

At the heart of the Initiative is a commitment to driving impact through three strategic pillars:

- **Research Excellence:** We produce rigorous, evidence-based research that explores how AI and data reshape firms, markets, and institutions. Our work spans critical themes such as AI strategy and governance, business model innovation, AI-enabled operations, organisational transformation, and the ethics and trust surrounding AI technologies.

- **Outreach and Engagement:** We connect LBS research and expertise to the world of practice. Through executive roundtables, thematic workshops, practitioner briefings, and high-impact summits, we bring decision-makers and faculty together to exchange insights, benchmark progress, and co-develop solutions to pressing challenges. This two-way dialogue ensures our research remains grounded in the realities of business and policy.
- **Advancing LBS's Mission:** As AI redefines how business is done, the Initiative plays a central role in enabling London Business School to have a profound and lasting impact on the way the world does business. We embed AI fluency across the School's degree and executive education programmes, enrich classroom discussion with real-world challenges, and support the School's strategic ambition to lead in the age of AI.

The Initiative is not only a platform for academic collaboration and business impact, but also a catalyst for innovation and thought leadership within LBS and beyond.

Job Purpose

The Associate Director is instrumental to the success and sustainability of the Data Science & Artificial Intelligence Initiative. In collaboration with the Academic Co-Directors the role holder sets the strategic agenda for the Initiative and oversee all operational frameworks to realise the Initiative's ambitions. A priority will be to work closely with the Academic Co-Directors and Advancement to develop funding packages and contribute to fundraising applications related to the Data Science & Artificial Intelligence Initiative.

Key Areas of Accountability and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Key areas of accountability:

Strategy and Planning

- Lead the developing and implementing strategic and operational plans for the Data Science & AI Initiative to achieve the department's strategic goals and objectives in respect of (i) academic research, (ii) collaboration and communities of practice, and (iii) shaping business education.
- Communicate the Data Science & AI Initiative's strategic plan throughout the School, ensuring high levels of awareness and engagement.
- Develop specific and appropriate KPIs for the Initiative. These KPIs will provide evidence of the impact being achieved.
- Participate as a senior leader, representing the Data Science & AI Initiative, to influence the strategic direction of the School.

Institute Leadership

- Lead the Data Science & AI Initiative to achieve strategic and operational objectives ensuring resources are aligned and appropriately deployed.
- Lead a multi-functional team which involves research (pre and post doctoral candidates) and professional staff.
- Anticipate and identify all potential business risks and oversee risk management, compliance and governance.
- In consultation with relevant departments and the Academic Co-Directors, to deliver reports on the Initiative's activities.

Enabling Collaboration

- Act as programme/project sponsor and provide oversight to a portfolio of programmes/projects across the school, identifying interdependencies and opportunities to join up initiatives for the overall benefit of the School.
- Proactively encourage teams to collaborate across departments, to maximise School performance opportunities.
- To build internal relationships with staff, faculty, students (including through students' clubs and more generally) and alumni in order to identify opportunities to maximise the Data Science & AI Initiative's school-wide impact.

External Visibility

- Represent the School as required to a wide range of external audiences and stakeholders, proactively promoting the Data Science & AI Initiative and the School, its programmes and opportunities.
- Closely work with the Academic Co-Directors to identify and establish Data Science & AI Initiative key research themes in order to build relationships with research partner organisations.

Donor/Sponsor relationships:

- Work closely with the Academic Co-Directors and Advancement to develop funding packages and contribute to fundraising applications related to the Data Science & AI Initiative.
- Identify potential donors and partners for the Initiative.
- Attend meetings with potential donors as a representative of the Initiative to further contribute to its fundraising objectives.
- Support the Academic Co-Directors stewardship of donor relations for established funding to ensure healthy relations and delivery of agreed benefits.

Change Management

- Champion change across the School by acting as a sponsor for change programmes, and by modelling the behaviour expected from all colleagues, to win hearts and minds and gain overall organisational buy-in to the change.

KPIs:

- Leadership in the development and refinement of Data Science & AI Initiative's KPIs to assess the impact of the Initiative's activities.
- Quality inputs into the Data Science & AI Initiative's funding applications
- Quality inputs into management decision-making.
- Continual innovation in School-wide /departmental improvements.
- Sound financial management of budgets.
- Achievement of cross-departmental projects and change initiatives.
- Development and successful deployment of new/enhanced systems, processes and policies that are aligned to strategic objectives.
- Effective risk-management for department/division/School.
- Implementation of School-wide standards, policies and processes.
- Development and achievement of KPIs that promote high-quality service delivery across the department.

- Utilise expertise and insight to create opportunities and lead the development of initiatives or solutions, ensuring that London Business School's offerings to clients and stakeholders remain market leading.

Knowledge, Qualifications and Skills Required

- A postgraduate qualification in a relevant discipline or senior experience in the sector.
- Experience of managing internal relationships at the most senior levels with a proven ability to influence and shape the broader agenda in the School.
- Strong influencing and stakeholder management skills, able to influence other senior leaders.
- Strong experience leading people, managing high-performing teams and creating motivating and inclusive work environments.
- Ability to maintain a strong connection between diverse departments.
- Experience of leading delivery within a complex organisation with multiple competing demands.
- Strong commercial acumen.
- Excellent leadership and management experience gained while leading an initiative/department in a leading globally-oriented institution.
- Ability to think strategically.
- Understanding of latest thinking and practice in business and development.
- Experience of having successfully undertaken outreach activities, including building a brand or raising funds for a cause.

Resources including team management

TBC

Staff	1 (TBC)
Budgets	TBC
Date Updated	June 2025