



Appointment brief
Appointment of IT Director

April 2024

Reference: FBNPA



An introduction

The Ellison Institute of Technology (EIT) was first established in 2015 as a research and development centre for cancer, healthcare and global public health. It was founded in Los Angeles by Larry Ellison and Dr David Agus under the name The Ellison Institute of Transformative Medicine. In 2023, the Institute broadened its mission to have a lasting impact on humanity by applying technology on a worldwide scale, and became known as The Ellison Institute of Technology.

EIT Faculty

- EIT is guided by a Faculty of Fellows made up of world leaders, scientists and entrepreneurs.
- The EIT Oxford campus is the second in a planned series of globally connected research campuses for EIT, alongside the flagship facility in Los Angeles, California.



EIT's mission is to develop and deploy technology in pursuit of solving humanity's most challenging and enduring problems. EIT aims to accelerate four areas of scientific and technological innovation, known as Humane Endeavours :

- **Medical Science & Healthcare** – Speeding small molecule and protein drug design and development using generative artificial intelligence – and a modern digital infrastructure – to equitably distribute new, lifesaving vaccines, therapeutics and technologies globally.
- **Food Security & Sustainable Agriculture** – Developing modular greenhouse growing systems using solar energy, robotics, hydroponics, AI, material science and cloud software management. Growing indoors uses 95% less water, 90% less land, and virtually eliminates pesticide use.
- **Clean Energy & Climate Change** – Food production is the source of over 30% of global greenhouse gasses. EIT has plant biology programmes to grow novel animal fodder that will reduce methane emissions from livestock. EIT broadly supports development of clean energy technologies.
- **Government Policy & Economics** – Viewing e-government as an ‘innovation platform’ to digitally deliver essential government and private sector services to all its citizens – from digital IDs to healthcare, e-commerce and banking – enabling broader participation in the economy.



EIT Oxford

EIT Oxford is envisaged as an interdisciplinary research and development facility which will break down barriers between researchers, scientists, clinicians and patients, creating a human-centred and holistic approach to healthcare and technological innovation.

Educational Spaces : To serve as a convening space for researchers, partners, educators and students in the great Oxford community. EIT Oxford will have over 30,000 square metres of research laboratory space to support ongoing work in EIT's humane endeavours.

Collaboration : To further Oxford's deep expertise in areas such as global health, fusion and battery technology and global governance. EIT Oxford will enhance existing partnerships with the University of Oxford and organisations like the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change and Oxford Nanopore Technologies.

State-Of-The-Art Facilities : To act as an enormous boost to the growth of the UK's technology sector. EIT Oxford will have laboratories for robot development, state of the art proteomic analysis and genomic sequencing, advanced cloud-controlled greenhouses, and the world's largest computer for designing and training artificial neural networks.

World First : To offer inspiring teaching spaces for the Institute's life changing and unique scholarship programme: Ellison Scholars, which offers fully funded undergraduate or graduate study at the University of Oxford, for upwards of twenty students from around the world each year.

Why Oxford ?

- Strategically located in Littlemore Parish and on the Oxford Science Park.
- Oxford has deep expertise in science and technology, and EIT Oxford will further the Institute's current partnerships in the Oxford biotech and technology communities and expand research collaborations with the University of Oxford.
- The EIT Oxford campus is designed by world-renowned architect Lord Norman Foster and is due to be completed in 2026. The iconic design consists of two buildings; Littlemore House (laboratories, clinical spaces, patient clinic, auditorium and restaurant) & Littlemore Brook (educational and multi-functional spaces) which are connected by an elevated woodland walkway.



The role

SUMMARY

We are seeking an experienced and proactive IT Director to join our growing team in Oxford. Initially operating in a standalone role and working with the US-based IT team and 3rd party UK support, this role will work to build a local IT team that works closely with the existing IT function based in Los Angeles, USA. This role will scope and develop a team structure and transfer ownership of systems, day to day management and operation of functions to the UK offices.

This role will also lead the strategic planning and implementation of cutting-edge technology infrastructure for EIT's new Oxford campus. Responsibilities will include overseeing the design and construction of the IT systems, ensuring seamless integration with the overall building architecture, and managing a team to deliver robust and scalable solutions that meet the organisation's present and future technology needs. Additionally, you will collaborate with cross-functional teams to guarantee the successful alignment of IT initiatives with the broader objectives of the new campus.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

May include some or all of the following :

1. **Strategic Planning:**
 - Collaborate with executive leadership to align IT strategies with overall business objectives.
 - Provide insights and recommendations on emerging technologies to drive innovation.
2. **Team Leadership:**
 - Build and lead a high-performing IT team, recruiting and developing top talent.
 - Foster a collaborative and innovative culture within the IT department.
3. **Infrastructure Management:**
 - Assess, enhance, and oversee the transition of IT infrastructure responsibilities from the parent company to the UK office.
 - Develop and implement robust strategies for the maintenance, security, availability, and scalability of all IT systems.

4. **Network and Security:**

- Design and implement network architecture and security protocols to safeguard company data.
- Collaborate with external vendors and partners to ensure the integrity of our cybersecurity measures.
- Oversee the performance of periodic penetration tests and security audits.

5. **Systems Integration:**

- Lead the integration of diverse systems, ensuring seamless communication and functionality across the organisation.
- Evaluate and implement solutions to optimise workflow efficiency and user experience.

6. **Vendor Management:**

- Oversee relationships with third-party service providers and negotiate contracts to ensure cost-effectiveness and service quality.





“Progress in artificial intelligence, genetics, robotics and data science will fundamentally transform a majority of our economy and change the way we live, work and govern ourselves.”

*Larry Ellison, Founder, EIT Faculty Fellow
and Chief Technology Officer, Oracle*



Person specification

Essential Knowledge, Skills and Experience:

- Proven experience in a leadership role within IT management.
- Demonstrable success in building and leading high-performing IT teams.
- Expertise in managing complex, cloud-based IT infrastructure and systems.
- Strong strategic thinking and problem-solving abilities.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- In-depth knowledge of cybersecurity, networking, and system integration.
- Ability to adapt to a fast-paced and dynamic 'start-up/growth' environment.
- Proactive and results driven.
- Adaptable to change and open to innovation.
- Strong organizational and project management skills.

Qualifications:

- A degree in Computer Science, Information Technology, or a related field.
- Minimum 10 years' experience in a leadership role within IT management.
- Team leadership.

Terms of appointment

Salary will reflect the seniority of the role and will depend on skills and experience.

- You must be eligible to work in the UK with a willingness to travel as necessary.
- You must be based in, or within easy commuting distance of, Oxford.
- During peak periods, some longer hours may be required and some working across multiple time zones due to the global nature of the programme.

How to apply

Saxton Bampfylde Ltd is acting as an employment agency advisor to the Ellison Institute of Technology on this appointment.

Candidates should apply for this role through our website at www.saxbam.com/appointments using code FBNPA.

Click on the 'apply' button and follow the instructions to upload a CV and cover letter, and complete the online equal opportunities monitoring* form.

The closing date for applications is midday on **26th April 2024**.

* The equal opportunities monitoring online form will not be shared with anyone involved in assessing your application. Please complete as part of the application process.

GDPR personal data notice

According to GDPR guidelines, we are only able to process your Sensitive Personal Data (racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, genetic data, biometric data, health, sex life, or sexual orientation) with your express consent. You will be asked to complete a consent form when you apply and please do not include any Sensitive Personal Data within your CV (although this can be included in your covering letter if you wish to do so), remembering also not to include contact details for referees without their prior agreement.

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