

**Description of the appointment process of a tenure track position
(associate/full professor)****Industrial engineering and management in sustainable energy systems**

Location: LUT School of Engineering Sciences
Department of Industrial Engineering and Management
Lappeenranta or Lahti campus

The rector has approved the description and initiated the appointment process on 9 April 2026.

1 BACKGROUND	2
2 VACANT PROFESSORSHIP	2
3 QUALIFICATIONS	4
4 APPLYING FOR THE POSITION	4
5 EXPERT EVALUATORS	5
6 INTERVIEW AND TRIAL LECTURE	6
7 APPOINTMENT	6
TENURE TRACK APPOINTMENT CRITERIA	7

Applied statutes

Universities Act (558/2009)

Government decree on universities (770/2009)

Regulations of LUT University (8 December 2022, amended 20 September 2025)

Rector's decision: Academic career tracks of the Lappeenranta-Lahti University of Technology LUT (16 January 2025)

Additional information

Further information on the duties of the professor is provided by Samuli Honkapuro, professor, tel. +358 400 307728, samuli.honkapuro@lut.fi.

1 Background

LUT University is a challenger university conducting high-quality research that is relevant to society and industries. As a compact, agile, and highly focused university, together with its partners, LUT contributes to an economically, ecologically, and socially sustainable society in its focus areas.

Clean energy, water, and air are life-giving resources for which we at LUT University seek new solutions with our expertise in technology, business, and social sciences. We help society and businesses in their sustainable renewal.

LUT University was established in 1969. Our entrepreneurially thinking scientific and international community comprises approximately 9000 students and 1500 experts engaged in scientific research and academic education. There are more than 98 nationalities present on our modern campuses in Lappeenranta and Lahti.

In our schools – the LUT School of Energy Systems, the LUT School of Engineering Sciences, and LUT Business School – we conduct research and provide education that are internationally recognised and relevant to both society and business.

LUT School of Engineering Sciences (LENS)

Our mission is to train problem-solvers in engineering and contribute to a wider understanding of our world through research in technology and social and communication sciences. Our research and education are characterised by an entrepreneurial, global, and sustainable mindset. The LUT School of Engineering Sciences serves industry and society with its international expertise in separation and process technologies, computer vision and pattern recognition, applied mathematics and physics, industrial engineering and management, software engineering, and social sciences. Our strength lies in our close collaboration with companies, combined with strong theoretical and methodological expertise.

Our unit pursues a sustainable future in a world where climate change, diminishing natural resources, the availability of clean water, use of materials, and environmental issues pose significant challenges. By focusing on our strengths, we create sustainable technologies and business for the future.

<https://www.lut.fi/en/about-lut/faculties/lut-school-engineering-sciences/industrial-engineering-and-management>

2 Vacant professorship

The professorship of industrial engineering and management in sustainable energy systems is located at the Department of Industrial Engineering and Management (IEM) of the LUT School of Engineering Sciences. IEM is an integrative, solution-oriented discipline that addresses organisations and their networks as technological, economic, and social systems with the objective of enabling innovations, creating value, and leading businesses towards high efficiency, profitability, and sustainability.

The department's research focuses specifically on innovation and technology management, logistics and supply chains, operations management, cost and performance management, entrepreneurship, and systems engineering. The Department of Industrial Engineering and Management is a strong research unit of 13 full professors and altogether 110 researchers and teachers. It operates on the Lappeenranta and Lahti campuses and in the Kouvola regional unit. The vacant professorship will be located in Lappeenranta or Lahti.

The professorship will strengthen research and education in industrial engineering and management in sustainable energy systems. The person appointed to the position must present strong research merits in the IEM department's focus areas in the energy sector. Applicants must have proven expertise in at least one of the following fields:

- energy technology investments, life cycle costs, and profitability
- energy asset management (e.g., energy production, storage, grids, and Power-to-X facilities)
- new business models and techno-economic analyses in the energy sector
- energy business ecosystems and value chains

The person appointed to the professorship should present proof of successful project work, funding acquisition, and research collaboration with industrial and public-sector stakeholders. Experience in energy business environments is considered an advantage.

The duties include education at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels in the key areas of industrial engineering and management. Successful teaching requires good theoretical and practical knowledge in the above-mentioned areas of expertise. Experience in using and teaching the use of different types of analytical tools and artificial intelligence is considered an advantage. Experience in utilising modern teaching environments in the field of industrial engineering and management is also an asset.

The duties related to the field of the professorship include the following:

- international high-impact research
- acquisition of external research funding and preparation of research projects
- active collaboration with industry and business
- networking and cooperation with international universities and research institutes
- education at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels and related planning
- supervision of final theses and doctoral studies
- general administrative work related to the operation of the university

The position is situated at the associate or full professor level of the tenure track and will be filled through an open application process for a fixed term of four years (associate professor) or permanently (full professor). The work will start with a six-month trial period.

More information on the LUT tenure track system:

<https://www.lut.fi/en/research/research-career-lut/tenure-track>

3 Qualifications

According to the administrative regulations of LUT University, adopted on 8 December 2022 (amended 20 September 2025), associate and full professors are required to have a doctorate, high-level scientific qualifications, experience in heading scientific research, the ability to acquire funding, the ability to provide high-level instruction based on research, the ability to supervise final theses, proof of international cooperation in the field of the professorship, and when relevant to the duties of the position, practical experience in the field of the professorship.

Practical experience in the field is not a requirement in this position, but strong evidence of industrial research and development projects is considered an advantage.

Applicants must have research and teaching merits, proof of effective research and the acquisition of external research funding, and international experience. The appointed applicant will be the immediate supervisor of a research group and may need to perform other demanding management duties assigned by the university. Therefore, related skills will be taken into consideration in the appointment, and attention will be paid to the applicants' merits as defined in LUT's tenure track system (Annex).

According to the university regulations, section 28, professors are required to have the language skills needed for the successful completion of their duties. In this position, spoken and written fluency in English is required. The appointed person is encouraged to acquire the necessary Finnish skills during the employment relationship. For that purpose, LUT offers in-house Finnish language courses to staff members.

4 Applying for the position

Application

The application must specify the tenure track level applied to. The deadline for applications is indicated in the vacancy announcement.

The application and material for expert assessors must be submitted through the online recruitment system mentioned in the vacancy announcement.

All application documents must be in English and in PDF format.

The application must include the following documents:

- a curriculum vitae (max. 10 pages)
- a copy of the applicant's doctoral diploma
- a full list of publications, including the total number of publications in the Scopus database, the total number of citations, the h-index and Scopus ID, equivalent information from the applicant's Google Scholar profile, and the ORCID ID
- a separate list of the publications submitted for expert evaluation
- the 10 publications above as separate files

- a teaching portfolio or an equivalent account of the applicant's teaching qualifications, presenting courses taught by the applicant, related feedback, the applicant's pedagogical training and teaching philosophy, and courses that the applicant can or prefers to teach
- an account of the applicant's merits and activities of significance to the vacancy (max. 3 pages)
- an account of the applicant's vision on the development of education, research, and projects in the field of the professorship at LUT University (max. 3 pages)

Contact information

Applicants must give the university an email address at which they can be reached. Applicants who do not wish to be contacted by email must give a postal address at which they can be reached during the appointment process. The university prefers email.

5 Expert evaluators

Selection of experts

The experts must be impartial. Before the selection of expert evaluators, the applicants must be provided the possibility to comment on their possible disqualification.

Based on the proposal of the selection committee, the dean invites at least three internationally recognised experts to submit a statement on the qualification of the applicants. The university's staff members may not be invited as expert evaluators. To the extent possible, the experts should be chosen with the applicants' fields of specialisation in mind and with a view to impartiality.

Sections 27–29 of the Administrative Procedure Act (434/2003) apply to the disqualification of an expert evaluator.

Applications forwarded to expert evaluators

The provost may limit the number of applications forwarded to expert evaluators if there are four applicants or more. At least three applications must be forwarded to the experts. The applications may be limited to the candidates deemed the most suitable for the position by the provost. The provost must state the grounds for the decision. The applicants will be informed if any applications are excluded from the evaluation.

Expert statements

The expert evaluators must give their statements in writing. More specific dates will be sent to the evaluators along with instructions. In their statements, the experts must evaluate especially the scientific qualification of the applicant, and if possible, also other merits related to the professorship, and rank the applicants in order of preference.

Expert evaluators may not take part in the appointment process at a later stage.

The statements must be submitted to the university (separate instructions issued) by the deadline.

6 Interview and trial lecture

Applicants deemed qualified for the position by the experts will be invited to an interview. The provost decides whether the applicants need to give a public trial lecture.

7 Appointment

The selection committee makes an appointment proposal to the tenure track committee, which then makes its own proposal to the dean and provost. The dean and provost then make a joint proposal to the rector on filling the position or leaving it vacant. The proposal shall be based on the merits presented by the applicants, expert statements, interviews, possible trial lectures, and other related matters.

The evaluation of an applicant's qualifications takes into account scientific publications and other research results with scientific value, pedagogical expertise, teaching experience, teaching-related merits, a trial lecture if needed, the number of supervised dissertations, and management and leadership skills. In addition, the applicant's activity in the scientific community, success in raising research funding, scientific work abroad, and international positions of trust are considered.

The rector decides either to appoint an applicant or to leave the position vacant.

The appointment proposal may be made or let lapse even if all of the experts have not submitted their statements, provided that the time limit for the statements has expired, at least three experts have submitted their statements, and the impartial treatment of the applicants is not compromised by doing so.

After the rector has made the appointment decision, an employment contract is concluded with the appointed person. If no employment contract is concluded, the rector may, based on the proposal by the dean, make a new decision and appoint another applicant. The rector may also leave the position vacant. When the employment contract is concluded with the person appointed, the final decision is made known to all interviewed applicants.

Tenure track appointment criteria

The positions below require a doctorate in an applicable field, a research field that fits the LUT strategy (see LUT Strategy 2030), a goal-oriented plan for the work in question, teaching experience, and an up-to-date account of teaching merits (teaching portfolio).

LUT has joined the international CoARA Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment (<https://coara.eu/agreement/the-agreement-full-text>), which emphasises qualitative assessment in recruitments and promotions to specialist positions. This is highlighted especially in the assessment of peer-reviewed scientific publications. We require high-level publications. The quality of publications is evaluated based on their content, such as novelty and impact. High-level publications have also passed a high-level peer review, where only the best manuscripts are accepted for publication.

In the tenure track criteria below, we apply the classification of the Finnish Publication Forum (JUFO) as a guiding indicator of high-level publications (ratings 2 and 3), but applicants always select their best publications for a qualitative evaluation by experts. The applicants' work will be evaluated in light of LUT's high ethical standards for research.

In international recruitments, the evaluation must consider that applicants from beyond Finland and Europe may not have been involved in Finnish or European research projects and may not have taken into consideration the Finnish Publication Forum classification. Such applicants are evaluated in terms of their success in acquiring competitive funding through their own national channels or through international ones and in terms of impact factors of scientific journals in their own field. Only in promotion and tenure reviews are the same criteria applied to them as to Finnish persons.

The following qualifications are to be considered in the recruitment of researchers for different levels.

Associate professor:

- successful publication history after the doctoral defence, target of three high-level publications a year
- proof on international cooperation
- successful acquisition of external funding and acting as, e.g., a project manager in externally funded projects
- applying for the Research Council of Finland's research fellow positions
- participation in the supervision of doctoral students
- participation in the commercialisation of research results
- participation in teaching, the development of teaching, and the supervision of final theses

Full professor:

- proof of the successful performance of duties
 1. Scientific research
 - publications: target of three high-level publications a year; emphasis on publications from recent years
 - supervised dissertations: target of approximately one doctorate a year
 - other scientific publications, such as books and chapters
 - citations
 - important keynote/plenary presentations and scientific awards
 - editorial work in scientific journals
 2. Academic teaching experience
 - high-quality teaching proven in different ways, such as feedback received
 - up-to-date teaching portfolio
 - development of teaching modules
 - supervision of final theses
 3. Academic leadership
 - establishing and heading a research group
 - leadership experience and evidence of leadership and interpersonal skills
 - other leadership experience and feedback received
 4. Acquisition of external funding
 - EU, ERC, Research Council of Finland, and Business Finland
 5. Work in the scientific community
 - international scientific societies and expert advisory duties
 - duties with an impact on the scientific community
 6. Societal impact
 - presence in societal dialogue
 - corporate funding and external funding not referred to in point 4 above
 - professional experience beyond universities
 - innovations, patents, collaboration with companies (e.g., board memberships)
 - activity in the university's stakeholder groups