

POSITION DESCRIPTION – General Staff For levels 1 to 5

Position Title: Research Assistant Level: 5
Faculty/Division: Science, Medicine and Health Department/Location: SEES/Bldg. 41

Primary purpose of the position:

This part-time, fixed term (three years) position provides research assistance for the spatial science elements of the Australian Research Council funded project 'Mobile ecologies, complex landscapes: cultural environmental research to understand and enhance invasive plant management in high amenity rural areas' being undertaken by Dr Nicholas Gill and Dr Laurie Chisholm.

Position Environment: (Optional)

This position will be located within the School of Earth & Environmental Sciences (SEES) in the Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health and associated with the SEES Spatial Analysis Laboratories (SAL). The position will be connected with two research strengths, the Institute for Conservation Biology and Environmental Management, of which Dr Chisholm is a member, and the Australian Centre for Cultural Environmental Research (AUSCCER) of which Dr Gill is a member. The role will require close collaboration with project members, across all unit boundaries. SEES is a multidisciplinary research-intensive unit encompassing geology, physical geography, environmental science and archaeological science. SAL provides infrastructure support in spatial science research critical to the project. In part, the project requires spatial data and analytical integration across its social and biophysical elements.

Major Responsibilities:

Tasks	Percentage of time	Office Use Only
1. Assist with acquisition and management of remote sensing imagery and spatial datasets	15	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Use digital image processing skills on remotely sensed data to map weed distributions at multiple scales.	25	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. Conduct spatial analysis in support of mapping and on integrative methods arising from the project.	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. Assist with laboratory and/or field measurements using a spectroradiometer including the use of other relevant peripheral spatial devices, e.g. GPS.	10	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Undertake literature reviews, manage bibliographic and databases	15	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Assist with writing associated with the project, including internal discussion papers, external publications and web-based content.	10	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Assist with monitoring of research budgets	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Supervisory roles: Communicate and consult with staff on workplace and staffing matters.	Ongoing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

9. Observe principles and practices of Equal Employment Opportunity	Ongoing	
10. Have OH&S responsibilities, accountabilities and authorities as outlined in the http://staff.uow.edu.au/ohs/commitment/responsibilities/ document	Ongoing	

Inherent Requirements:

This position description outlines the major accountabilities/responsibilities and the selection criteria against which you will be assessed as suitable for the position. As such there will be specific job requirements that we refer to as Inherent Requirements.

Inherent Requirements refer to your ability to:

- Perform the essential duties and functional requirements of the job;
- Meet the productivity and quality requirements of the position;
- Work effectively in the team or other type of work organisation concerned; and
- Do the job without undue risk to your own or others health, safety and welfare at work.

If you have any injuries, illness, disorder, impairment, condition or incapacity that may affect your ability to perform the inherent requirements of the position, we encourage you to discuss this with the University to assist in the process of identifying reasonable adjustments to enable you to perform the duties of the position. The University wants to place you in the best situation to use your skills effectively in the position you are applying for at the University.

Reporting Relationships:

Position Reports to: Dr Laurie Chisholm

The position supervises the following positions: NA

SELECTION CRITERIA - Knowledge & Skills:

Essential:

- Demonstrated remote sensing and spatial science research skills and their application to vegetation mapping and/or applied terrestrial ecology.
- Demonstrated skills in advanced digital image processing techniques applied to satellite remote sensing data using industry-standard software (eCognition, ENVI), including per-pixel and object-orientated classification techniques.
- Demonstrated proficiency in spatial analysis, including experience with industry-standard software (e.g. ArcGIS), and the ability to integrate disparate datasets for analysis.
- Demonstrated experience in the use of field spectroradiometers and GPS.
- Excellent writing and communication skills
- Strong organizational and project management skills, including the ability to set goals and meet deadlines in a pressured environment.
- Demonstrated teamwork skills

SELECTION CRITERIA - Education and Experience:

Essential:

- At least an Honours degree or equivalent in a relevant discipline (e.g. spatial science, physical geography) with specialisation in remote sensing and applied spatial analysis, or, where substantive and relevant remote sensing and applied research training can be clearly demonstrated.
- Current drivers licence

Personal Attributes:

- Enthusiastic, flexible, displays initiative and able to work independently and with diverse research participants.
- An interest in applying and developing remote sensing and integrative methodologies in environmental and/or interdisciplinary environmental research.

Special Job Requirements:

At times this position will involve travel to, and conduct fieldwork in, regional locations other than Wollongong. This may require after hours and weekend work.

Organisational Chart:

Please attach an up to date organisational chart to this position description.

Approval:

Approval by Head of Unit: _____

Date: _____

Approved by Human Resources: _____

Date: _____