

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Academic Positions

(In addition to the Position Classification Standards)

Position Title: Associate Research Fellow (part-time, 0.6FTE) Level: A

Faculty/Division: Faculty of Social Sciences Department: Geography & Sustainable Communities

Primary Purpose of the Position:

The position will undertake research in the cultural dimensions of sustainability. Specifically, the successful candidate will explore ethnically diverse environmental knowledges in an Australian context.

Position Environment:

This position relates to an ARC Discovery Project entitled 'Sustainability and climate change adaptation: unlocking the potential of ethnic diversity', awarded to researchers in the Australian Centre for Cultural Environmental Research (AUSCCER). The position is in the Department of Geography and Sustainable Communities. DGSC is a new department in the Faculty of Social Sciences. The Department is made up primarily of human geographers. Human Geography encompasses the study of human societies and human environments. AUSCCER is a Research Strength which comprises an active group of researchers in geography and related areas, focusing on the cultural dimensions of sustainability and climate change.

Major Accountabilities/Responsibilities:

Responsibilities	Outcome	Office Use Only
1. Undertake high quality research in the above area. This includes contributing to the writing and publication of academic papers.	High impact publications and conference presentations	
2. Undertake operational and management tasks associated with the abovementioned project.	Smooth operation of the research project	
3. Assist the Chief Investigators with organising and conducting research tasks - including field work, data collection, analysis.	Collection and analysis of data and establishment/maintenance of good relationships with research participants	
4. Assist with supervision of honours students, student research interns and community-based researchers associated with the project	Quality research training and thesis completions	
5. Actively engage with other members of AUSCCER	Vibrant intellectual culture	
6. Seek out opportunities to communicate research outcomes beyond academia	Policy improvements, community engagement with research	
7. Supervisory roles: Communicate and consult with staff on workplace and staffing matters.	To foster direct relationships with staff and enhance engagement with the organisation.	Ongoing
8. Observe principles and practices of Equal Employment Opportunity	To ensure fair treatment in the workplace	
9. Have OH&S responsibilities, accountabilities and authorities as	To ensure a safe working environment	

outlined in the http://staff.uow.edu.au/ohs/commitment/responsibilities/document	for self & others.	
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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 Natascha Klocker
The position supervises the following positions:	Honours students, research interns
Other Key Contacts:	Prof. Lesley Head (AUSCCER), Prof. Gordon Waitt (AUSCCER), Prof Heather Goodall (UTS); other AUSCCER members, Technical Officer Human Geography

Key Relationships:

Contact/Organisation:	Purpose & Frequency of contact
University of Technology, Sydney	To liaise with project co-investigator (Prof. Heather Goodall); regular contact

Key Challenges:

1. Conduct sustained periods of fieldwork, including in regional locations
2. Build and maintain relationships with relevant community groups and stakeholders
3. Work across cultural and linguistic boundaries, including with translators/interpreters and community-based research assistants as necessary
4. Contribute to high quality research outcomes and the translation of these into policy

Knowledge & Skills:

Essential:

1. Demonstrated ability to conduct high quality research and to produce publications for academic and policy audiences
2. Demonstrated expertise in social science research methods
3. Demonstrated capacity to conduct fieldwork and build and maintain strong relationships with community groups, research stakeholders and research participants

4. Demonstrated knowledge of the Australian migration context and ability to sensitively conduct research across cultural and linguistic boundaries
5. High level general computer skills and capacity to apply, and learn if needed, advanced packages such as QSR's NVivo, Filemaker and/or SPSS
6. Ability to supervise Bachelor (Honours) research projects
7. Excellent communication and teamwork skills
8. Demonstrated ability to apply OH&S and EEO principles in an academic environment
9. Demonstrated understanding of university research ethics protocols
10. Current driver's licence

Education & Experience:

Essential:

PhD in human geography, environmental social science, anthropology or a field relevant to AUSCCER's activities. Applicants who have made significant progress towards a PhD (but whose degrees have not yet been conferred) will be considered.

Personal Attributes:

Enthusiasm, flexibility, strong team player, ability to work independently, cross-cultural communication skills

Special Job Requirements:

The appointment will be on a 0.6 basis, but extended periods of fieldwork in regional locations (around 4 weeks at a time) will be necessary and may require after hours and weekend work. Overtime performed during those weeks will be compensated for at other times – thus flexibility is required. Willingness to travel is essential to this position.

Organisational Chart:

The position reports directly to Dr Natascha Klocker

Approval:

Approved by Head of Unit: _____

Natasha Klocker

(10.3.14)

Date: _____

Approved by Human Resources: _____

Date: _____