ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

DEPARTMENT/UNIT
School of Earth, Atmosphere and Environment

FACULTY/DIVISION
Faculty of Science

CLASSIFICATION
Level D

DESIGNATED CAMPUS OR LOCATION
Clayton campus

ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

At Monash, work feels different. There’s a sense of belonging that comes from contributing to something groundbreaking – it is a place where great things happen. You know you’re part of something special and purposeful because, like Monash, your ambitions drive you to make change.

We have a clear purpose to deliver groundbreaking intensive research; a world-class education; a global ecosystem of enterprise – and we activate these to address some of the challenges of the age, Climate Change, Thriving Communities and Geopolitical Security.

We welcome and value difference and diversity. When you come to work, you can be yourself, be a change-maker and develop your career in exciting ways with curious, energetic, inspiring and committed people and teams driven to make an impact – just like you.

At Monash we are committed to academic freedom, and you will have access to quality research facilities, infrastructure, world class teaching spaces, and international collaboration opportunities.

We champion an inclusive workplace culture for our staff regardless of ethnicity or cultural background. We have also worked to improve gender equality for more than 30 years. Join the pursuit of our purpose to build a better future for ourselves and our communities – #ChangeIt with us.

The five Schools of the Faculty of Science offer a large and diverse range of disciplines in undergraduate and postgraduate courses. Ten Schools from other university faculties contribute to science teaching at all levels, allowing students to choose their studies from physical, biological, biomedical, behavioural, environmental, mathematical and computer sciences. The Faculty of
Science has a strong research reputation. The Faculty's research spans the theoretical to the applied, contributes to new knowledge and technologies, and challenges how we interact with the world. To learn more about the Faculty of Science, please visit our website.

Through leadership in research and education, the School of Earth, Atmosphere and Environment (www.monash.edu/science/schools/earth-atmosphere-environment) aims to find environmental solutions for society and our planet. The School is interdisciplinary and hosts very active groups in Atmospheric/Climate Sciences, Physical Geography/Environment, and Geology/Geosciences. We address the global challenges identified in the Monash Impact 2030 Strategic Plan (Climate Change, Geopolitical Security and Thriving Communities), and we answer further fundamental questions about the formation and workings of our planet and solar system. The School is located in the Faculty of Science and has close collaborations with Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics, and with other Faculties, such as Arts (involving co-delivery of the undergraduate Geography programme), Business and Economics, and Engineering.

The School supports the newly funded ARC Centre of Excellence ‘Weather of the 21st Century’ and Securing Antarctica’s Environmental Future (SAEF), an ARC Special Research Initiative in Excellence in Antarctic Science, both of which are led out of Monash. Facilities include infrastructure to support fieldwork, world class geochemistry laboratories for elemental, stable isotope, radioisotope analysis of waters, soils and environmental materials, an environmental DNA facility, and a preparation laboratory for terrestrial cosmogenic nuclides. The School hosts the Monash Drone Discovery Platform, and groups within the School have established collaborations with the National Computational Infrastructure, and the Australian Synchrotron (located adjacent to Monash Clayton). The School has strong links with outside institutions such as Federal and State Government agencies, CSIRO, ANSTO, the Bureau of Meteorology, Australia’s climate simulator (ACCESS NRI), the Australian Antarctic Division, AuScope, and Geoscience Australia, as well as a large number of research institutes and universities globally.

Monash and the Faculty of Science values staff diversity and champions inclusive practices. We are committed to equitable decision making and apply the principles of achievement relative to opportunity in our selection processes.

POSITION PURPOSE

A Level D academic is expected to make major contributions to the teaching effort of the School and Faculty. The Associate Professor teaches into a range of undergraduate units in Physical Geography and Environmental Earth Sciences, and/or the Master of Environment and Sustainability, and/or the new Masters in Geographical Information Science and Technology. We currently have teaching gaps in water science, and past climates and environments, though the exact teaching contribution can be adjusted to fit the strengths of the incoming academic

The Associate Professor is expected to lead a new research group in the School, bringing fresh perspectives and novel research directions, building on our School’s existing diversity of research in physical geography, atmospheric science and geoscience. In physical geography and the broader environmental earth sciences, we have existing strengths in climate impacts and adaptation, coastal science, cryospheric science, environmental geochemistry and water science, GIS and remote sensing, earth and planetary surface processes, and soil science, and the successful candidate will compliment and build upon these strengths.

An academic at Level D is also expected to develop links with other Schools and Faculties, and make major contributions to scholarly and/or professional activities in their discipline.

Reporting Line: The position reports to the Head of the School of Earth, Atmosphere and Environment
Supervisory Responsibilities: Not applicable  
Financial Delegation: Not applicable  
Budgetary Responsibilities: Not applicable

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES
Specific duties required of a Level D academic may include:
1. Conduct of original research that will lead to excellent publications in impactful refereed journals and attract significant external and/or government funding
2. Leadership of a research team
3. The preparation and delivery of lectures, tutorials, practical classes, workshops, and field trips
4. Initiation and development of course materials
5. Course coordination including offering guidance to assistant lecturers and supervision of sessional staff in teaching unit/s if required
6. Consultation with students and supervision of PhD, honours and Masters students
7. Preparation and assessment of student assignments and examinations
8. Significant contribution to the profession and/or discipline both nationally and internationally
9. Other duties as directed from time to time

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

Education/Qualifications
1. The appointee will have:
   - A doctoral qualification in the relevant discipline area.

In determining experience relative to qualifications, regard shall be had to teaching experience, experience in research, experience outside tertiary education and professional contributions. In addition, a position at this level will normally require a record of demonstrable scholarly and professional achievement in the relevant discipline area.

Knowledge and Skills
2. A strong publication record in high-quality journals or equivalent, and outstanding and internationally recognised contribution to the discipline
3. A strong track record in obtaining external research grants
4. Record of successful supervision of postgraduate research students and the ability to make a significant contribution to postgraduate training programs
5. Demonstrated excellence in teaching in the relevant discipline area (i.e. through evaluations, innovation in presentation and through curriculum development)
6. Demonstrated ability to mentor staff and students
7. High level of interpersonal skills and a proven ability to establish good working relationships with colleagues, students and members of community and professional bodies
8. Demonstrated leadership in committees and other administrative work and portfolios
9. Proven ability to promote the discipline internally within the University as well as externally both nationally and internationally
10. A demonstrated capacity to work in a collegiate manner with other staff in the workplace
11. Demonstrated understanding of equity, diversity and inclusion principles and their application in promoting an inclusive workplace for colleagues and students

OTHER JOB RELATED INFORMATION
- Travel to other campuses of the University may be required
- There may be a requirement to work additional hours from time to time
- There may be peak periods of work during which taking of leave may be restricted
- A current satisfactory Working With Children Check is required

GOVERNANCE
Monash University expects staff to appropriately balance risk and reward in a manner that is sustainable to its long-term future, contribute to a culture of honesty and integrity, and provide an environment that is safe, secure and inclusive. Ensure you are aware of and adhere to University policies relevant to the duties undertaken and the values of the University. This is a standard which the University sees as the benchmark for all of its activities in Australia and internationally.