

**Position Description****Research Fellow**

---

<b>Position No:</b>	NEW
<b>Business Unit:</b>	School of Humanities and Social Sciences
<b>Division:</b>	La Trobe Climate Change Adaptation Lab
<b>Department:</b>	Department of Social Inquiry
<b>Classification Level:</b>	Level B, Research Only
<b>Employment Type:</b>	1 Year Fixed term (to end of 2025), Full Time with Part Time option for suitable candidates
<b>Campus Location:</b>	Bundoora or Albury-Wodonga
<b>Other Benefits:</b>	<a href="http://www.latrobe.edu.au/jobs/working/benefits">http://www.latrobe.edu.au/jobs/working/benefits</a>

Further information about:

La Trobe University - <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/about>

---

## **Position Context/Purpose**

We are looking to appoint a research-only, 1.0 FTE Level B (option of part time for suitable candidate) researcher to contribute to a new project, River Communities.

The social science/interdisciplinary Research Fellow role will contribute to a team that is a collaboration between La Trobe's Climate Change Adaptation Lab, within the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, based in Bundoora, Melbourne, and Centre for Freshwater Ecosystems, within the School of Agriculture, Biomedicine and Environment, based in Albury-Wodonga.

The aim of the funded River Communities project is to support river and floodplain communities to identify, collate and apply their own river data and knowledge. The project involves identifying and engaging community members and landholders who have an interest in rivers and floodplains to explore their data and knowledge around river flows, floodplain inundation and ecological conditions. It will design a framework for capturing and managing community knowledge and data and developing citizen science monitoring options. The work will involve on-ground field visits in the mid-Murray region to identify monitoring needs and develop and trial community monitoring approaches. It will involve engaging with Traditional Owners and First Nations groups in the region.

The role will involve working closely with others and independently to help deliver the project. It is suited to someone with a background in applying social science to water, environmental and natural resource management problems. It requires a mixture of strong social research capabilities and at least a degree of literacy in environmental sciences.

### **Duties will include:**

- Collaborating with the rest of the team
- Building relationships with industry and community
- Conducting and writing up literature reviews
- Helping design, organise and conduct the data collection and analysis
- Helping produce and deliver high quality conference/seminar papers
- Contributing to writing up research findings for high quality publications
- Working with the project team and industry partners to disseminate research findings
- Undertaking other duties and administrative functions commensurate with the classification and scope of the position as required.

### **Essential Criteria**

#### **Skills and knowledge required for the position**

- Completion of a PhD or equivalent qualifications in a relevant area of social science (e.g. Human Geography, Environmental Sociology)
- A record of publications of various sorts that provide evidence of sound analytical skills and strong research potential.
- Demonstrated capacity to conduct high quality qualitative (e.g. focus group) social science methods
- Ability to communicate complex information clearly both orally and in writing.
- High level organisational skills: the ability to set priorities, meet deadlines, initiate and follow-up actions, all with a high level of self-motivation and personal management.

- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively and productively with staff, students, collaborators and industry partners from a diverse range of backgrounds.

### **Capabilities required to be successful in the position**

- Ability to demonstrate self-awareness, see things from another person's perspective and actively seek out and act on feedback to improve knowledge, skills and behaviour.
- Ability to work collaboratively, recognise the value of diversity and model accountability, connectedness, innovation and care.
- Ability to think systemically and creatively, explore new ideas and respectfully challenge existing practices in order to improve current ways of working.
- Ability to enable a safe, inclusive, high-performing team culture, prioritising staff mental health and wellbeing.

### **Desirable Criteria**

- Understanding of rural and regional Australia including farming communities and water and environmental change issues
- Understanding of environmental data and monitoring challenges including the use of citizen science
- Demonstrated capacity to work respectfully with Traditional Owners and First Nations groups

### **Compliance Requirements**

To hold this La Trobe University position the occupant must:

- hold, or be willing to undertake and pass, a Victorian Working With Children Check; AND
- take personal accountability to comply with all University policies, procedures and legislative or regulatory obligations; including but not limited to TEQSA and the Higher Education Threshold Standards.
- car licence highly recommended
- workplace first aid training

### **Other Information**

The position description is indicative of the initial expectation of the role and subject to changes to University goals and priorities, activities or focus of the job.

### **Position Flexibility**

We offer flexible work arrangements that can assist you in balancing your work and other responsibilities.

## Why La Trobe:

- Develop your career at an innovative, global university where you'll collaborate with community and industry to create impact.
- Enjoy working on our inspiring and stunning campuses – the perfect hub for industry, students and academics
- Help transform the lives of students, partners and communities now and in the future

This is more than just a job. Working at La Trobe offers opportunities to demonstrate excellence and transform lives.

Here, you'll join exceptional people, partners and communities, who power our operations with ambition and purpose.

Our success can be attributed to its strong sense of community. We have a long-standing commitment to diversity, inclusion and social justice; we are committed to providing a workplace where all staff feel valued, respected and supported to achieve their full potential. We strive to build a workplace where all employees of diverse backgrounds, abilities, experiences, sexuality, gender, religion and age are welcome, valued, respected and one that is representative of our community. We demonstrate our cultural qualities by holding ourselves accountable and creating a culture of trust and innovation while genuinely caring for one another.

## La Trobe's Cultural Qualities:

### WE ARE CONNECTED



We are **connected** to each other and the communities around us. We engage with those communities to learn from our past, inform our present and impact our future.

### WE ARE INNOVATIVE



We are **innovative** in tackling the most important issues of our time. We are inquisitive and seek to develop new ideas that positively impact the way we work and the world around us.

### WE ARE ACCOUNTABLE



We are **accountable** for what we do and share a commitment to excellence. We are courageous and respectful in the way we hold ourselves and each other to account.

### WE CARE



We **care** about what we do and value the power of education and research. We care about each other and strive to create a safe and inclusive community.

---

For Human Resource Use Only

Initials:            Date: