POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Postdoctoral Research Fellowship
Organisation Unit: School of Political Science and International Studies
Position Number: New
Type of Employment: Part-time (50%) fixed-term for a period of two years.
Classification: Research Academic Level A

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

The University of Queensland (UQ) contributes positively to society by engaging in the creation, preservation, transfer and application of knowledge. UQ helps shape the future by bringing together and developing leaders in their fields to inspire the next generation and to advance ideas that benefit the world. UQ strives for the personal and professional success of its students, staff and alumni. For more than a century, we have educated and worked with outstanding people to deliver knowledge leadership for a better world.

UQ ranks in the world’s top universities, as measured by several key independent ranking, including the Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities (43), the US News Best Global Universities Rankings (52), QS World University Rankings (47), Academic Ranking of World Universities (55), and the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (65). UQ again topped the nation in the prestigious Nature Index and our Life Sciences subject field ranking in the Academic Ranking of World Universities was the highest in Australia at 20.

UQ has an outstanding reputation for the quality of its teachers, its educational programs and employment outcomes for its students. Our students remain at the heart of what we do. The UQ experience – the UQ Advantage – is distinguished by a research enriched curriculum, international collaborations, industry engagement and opportunities that nurture and develop future leaders. UQ has a strong focus on teaching excellence, winning more national teaching excellence awards than any other in the country and attracting the majority of Queensland’s highest academic achievers, as well as top interstate and overseas students.

UQ is one of Australia’s Group of Eight, a charter member of edX and a founding member of Universitas 21, an international consortium of leading research-intensive universities.

Our 50,000-plus strong student community includes more than 13,000 postgraduate scholars and more than 12,000 international students from 144 countries, adding to its proud 240,000-plus alumni. The University has about 7,000 academic and professional staff and a $1.8 billion annual operating budget. Its major campuses are at St Lucia, Gatton and Herston, in addition to teaching and research sites around Queensland and Brisbane city. The University has six Faculties and four University-level Institutes. The Institutes, funded by government and industry grants, philanthropy and commercialisation activities, have built scale and focus in research areas in neuroscience, biomolecular and biomedical sciences, sustainable minerals, bioengineering and nanotechnology, as well as social science research.
UQ has an outstanding track-record in commercialisation of our innovation with major technologies employed across the globe and integral to gross product sales of $11billion+ (see http://uniquest.com.au/our-track-record).

UQ has a rapidly growing record of attracting philanthropic support for its activities and this will be a strategic focus going forward.

Organisational Environment

The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) is a large comprehensive Faculty with a broad academic profile and substantial research achievements. The Faculty Office is based at the St Lucia campus in the iconic Forgan Smith building adjacent to the Great Court of the University. The current Executive Dean is Professor Julie Duck who is Acting in the role following the transition of Professor Tim Dunne to a Pro-Vice- Chancellor position in the Office of the Provost.

The Faculty comprises seven Schools (Communication & Arts; Education; Historical & Philosophical Inquiry; Languages & Cultures; Music; Political Science & International Studies; Social Science), two research Institutes (Institute for Social Science Research; Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities), two museums (Anthropology Museum and the RD Milns Antiquities Museum), a new Faculty Centre for Policy Futures, and several school-based research centres. The Faculty is also host to the Institute for Modern Languages and the Confucius Institute. The Faculty offers a broad range of programs to a large cohort of international and domestic students, with 850 research higher degree students, approximately 1,500 students in postgraduate coursework degrees and close to 8,000 undergraduates.

There are over 300 academic staff across the Faculty, making it one of the largest in Australia. One indicator of the Faculty’s standing in the disciplines that we research is membership in the learned academies, where UQ can proudly claim 33 members of the Australian Academy of the Humanities and 50 members of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia.

Teaching in the Faculty is underpinned by substantial research performance and several specialized fields of research were judged at the highest level (5 ranking) in the 2015 Excellence in Research Australia (ERA) round. These fields include Specialist Studies in Education; Political Science; Cultural Studies; Literary Studies; History and Philosophy of Specific Fields. Overall, HASS returned outputs to 21 disciplinary field codes, where 90% were rated above (4 ranking) or well above world standard (5 ranking). This is indicative of high quality and capacity in research.

These research achievements internationally are reflected in the 2017 Leiden rankings (based on impact, not reputation), where the Humanities and Social Sciences at UQ ranks 16th in the world on the quantum of publications in ranked journals, placing us first in Australia and in the Oceania region (for the full data-set see http://www.leidenranking.com).

The quality of our overall Faculty’s performance is also evident in the QS World University Rankings for 2017 which places Social Sciences/Management at UQ at 39th in the world, and Humanities at 50th in the world. This data can be accessed at: http://www.topuniversities.com/faculty-rankings.

The School of Political Science and International Studies is at the forefront of teaching and research in political science, international relations and peace and conflict studies in Australia. The School’s academic teaching and research staff include internationally
recognised scholars who are leaders in their research fields and award winners for innovation and excellence in teaching.

The School offers one of the oldest and largest undergraduate programs in peace and conflict studies in Australia, as well as a world-renowned Master of International Studies program. It makes an important contribution to the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Social Science undergraduate and honours degrees, with majors in peace and conflict studies, international relations, political science, public policy and development. In addition to the Master of International Studies, the School's postgraduate coursework programs include degrees in Governance & Public Policy and Development Practice, as well as a Graduate Certificate in Mediation & Conflict Resolution. The School also maintains a vibrant research higher degree program, with over 80 doctoral students currently enrolled.

The School houses the Graduate Centre in Governance and International Affairs as the focal point for its postgraduate programs, the Rotary Centre for International Studies in Peace and Conflict Resolution (one of only six centres worldwide funded by Rotary International) and the Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (which is an Associate of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect based in New York).

Information about the Faculty and the School may be accessed on the Faculty’s web site at http://www.hass.uq.edu.au/

Information for Prospective Staff

Information about life at UQ including staff benefits, relocation and UQ campuses is available at - http://www.uq.edu.au/current-staff/working-at-uq

The University of Queensland Enterprise Agreement outlines the position classification standards for Levels A to E.

DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

The appointee will provide research and administrative support for University of Queensland sponsored activities, and for the development of the ARC Centre for Excellence application on ‘The Future of International Order’.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Research

- Provide research assistance to support the development of the University of Queensland’s role in a projected Centre for Excellence on the Future of International Order.
- Conduct and publish research on the appointee’s chosen topic, preferably in an area related to the nature, development, and stability of international order.
Service and Engagement

- Assist UQ’s Lead Chief Investigator, Professor Christian Reus-Smit, in the preparation of UQ’s part of an Expression of Interest for the projected Centre for Excellence.

- Assist in the development of UQ based activities, such as a work-in-progress colloquia and research seminar series.

- Assist UQ based Chief Investigators in developing plans for five cross-institutional, interdisciplinary research laboratories.

- Assist in coordinating interactions between the UQ, University of Sydney, and University of Melbourne Chief Investigators as they develop the research laboratories.

- Organize a UQ-led research workshop at the London School of Economics, and a research training workshop to be run at UQ. Both are envisaged for 2019.

- Any other duties as reasonably directed by Professor Reus-Smit.

Other

Ensure you are aware of and comply with legislation and University policy relevant to the duties undertaken, including but not exclusive to:

- the University’s Code of Conduct

- requirements of the Queensland occupational health and safety (OH&S) legislation and related OH&S responsibilities and procedures developed by the University or Institute/School

- the adoption of sustainable practices in all work activities and compliance with associated legislation and related University sustainability responsibilities and procedures

- requirements of the Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000, the National Code 2007 and associated legislation, and related responsibilities and procedures developed by the University

Organisational Relationships

The position reports to Professor Reus-Smit.
SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- Applicants must hold a PhD (or be close to completion) in the area of political science.
- Demonstrated expert knowledge in the area of international relations.
- Demonstrated research and academic writing skills.
- Evidence of strong organizational and communication skills.
- High level of interpersonal and communication skills.
- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues.

Desirable

- Research expertise on questions of international order, and large scale international change.
- Experience in liaising and collaborating with external agencies to develop cooperative research initiatives.

Seminar

Applicants invited for interview may be expected to present a seminar in conjunction with the selection interview process.

Qualification Verification

An appointment to this position is subject to the verification of the highest academic qualification from the conferring institution.

The University of Queensland values diversity and inclusion and actively encourages applications from those who bring diversity to the University. Please refer to the University’s Diversity and Inclusion webpage (http://www.uq.edu.au/equity) for further information and points of contact if you require additional support.

This role is a part-time (50%) position; however flexible working arrangements may be negotiated.

Accessibility requirements and/or adjustments can be directed to the contact person listed in the job advertisement.