POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Principal Research Fellow (Science, Technology and Society)

Organisation Unit: Centre for Policy Futures and School of Social Science

Position Number: 3040754

Type of Employment: Full time, Fixed term for 4 years

Classification: Academic Level D (Research focused)

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.
CENTRE FOR POLICY FUTURES

The newly established Centre for Policy Futures provides a forum for The University of Queensland’s (UQ) researchers to inform policy debate and shape public policy by connecting academic research with policy and program development. Through robust, rigorous, and timely research and sustained policy engagement, the Centre will position the University as a key source of ideas and insights on the policy priorities that matter to our region. The Centre’s researchers, affiliated senior fellows and visiting fellows will pursue a vibrant research program focused on independent and peer-reviewed research, as well as commissioned reports, discussion papers, and policy briefs. Working closely with governments, international organisations, and key stakeholders, the Centre will specialise in three policy areas: Trade, Foreign & Security Policy; Sustainable Development and Capacity Building; and Science, Technology & Society. The Centre’s program of activities will include extensive policy engagement, bespoke Executive Education offerings developed in collaboration with the internationally acclaimed UQ Business School, and significant collaboration across the HASS Faculty and UQ to enhance the policy relevance of the university’s research and educational offerings.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

The School of Social Science comprises of four disciplines - anthropology, archaeology, criminology and sociology – and is one of the largest Schools of its type in Australia with over 45 academic staff members and around 900 equivalent full-time students including 90 higher degree research students. At the undergraduate level, the School manages the Bachelor of Social Science and the Bachelor of Criminology and Criminal Justice (Honours), and also offers majors in each discipline within the Bachelor of Arts, along with an archaeological science major in the Bachelor of Science. The School manages postgraduate coursework programs in Development Practice, Community Development, Museum Studies, and Heritage Management.

Further information on the School can be found at: www.social-science.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 primary purpose of this position will be to lead the Science, Technology and Society research theme in the newly established UQ Centre for Policy Futures. As part of that role, you will be UQ’s lead researcher on a CSIRO-UQ Responsible Research and Innovation Alliance, which has been funded to explore the ethical, legal and social implications of the CSIRO Future Science Platforms. The Alliance draws on the expertise of CSIRO and UQ experts, two dedicated and fully funded post-doctoral fellows, as well as a CSIRO Senior Research Scientist, significant in-kind contributions from leading scientists and social scientists at both institutions, and research support funding. The Alliance will form a key platform for both organisations’ research and outreach efforts in the RRI domain and will be a major plank of activity for the Centre for Policy Futures. Further information on the aims and ambitions of the CSIRO-UQ RRI Alliance can be provided on request.
You will also have a joint appointment with the UQ School of Social Science, and in that capacity you will contribute to the research and teaching portfolios of the School and foster collaborative partnerships with colleagues in other units across HASS, UQ and external partners.

The role is weighted towards research, therefore the teaching and learning load of the role be determined on that basis.

**Duties**

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

**Research and Academic Leadership**

- Develop and lead a strong externally-engaged research program under the CSIRO-UQ Responsible Research and Innovation Alliance, in the area of science, technology and society and resulting in the publication of high quality research papers in leading scientific journals.
- Attract funding through research contracts, competitive grants and other activities to support team-based research activities in collaboration with non-university partners.
- Ensure high quality research outputs in the conduct of contract research and other commercial opportunities, which could include the delivery of research reports and other innovative research outputs for external partners and funders.
- Collaborate with internal and external research partners.
- Assist with recruiting and developing early career academic research staff and postgraduate students
- Supervise research higher degree students in their research projects.

**Teaching, Executive Education and Training**

- Coordinate and teach an undergraduate or postgraduate course in areas of expertise as directed by the Head of School.
- Initiate and develop executive education and training courses, as required.
- Teach, examine and supervise at honours and postgraduate level.

**Engagement and Service**

- Collaborate and engage with cognate groups, universities and institutions to share knowledge and contribute to research.
- Engage with relevant disciplinary and professional communities
- Contribute to strategic planning and/or service functions/roles in the Centre for the Policy Futures and the School of Social Science
- Represent the Centre and School inside and outside the University as appropriate.

**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 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 primarily to the Director, Centre for Policy Futures, for activities relating to the CSIRO-UQ Alliance and Centre activities, and to the Head, School of Social Sciences for matters relating to the School.

SELECTION CRITERIA

**Essential**

• A research doctorate (PhD) in a social science discipline that can form the basis for a research program in the Centre and School.
• Demonstrated international research leadership and profile in theory and practice of science, technology and society studies with an established track record of publication in high-ranking refereed journals and other publication outlets
• Demonstrated ability to lead a cohesive and innovative team, and manage and oversee the delivery of research projects and develop new initiatives.
• Demonstrated record of engagement, working collaboratively with colleagues in the social sciences, external partners and stakeholders, and funders to develop cooperative research initiatives and build high value, long-lasting relationships.
• An established track record of securing funding to support your work.
• High level interpersonal and communication skills.
• An active and effective record of principal supervision of Research Higher Degree students.

**Desirable**

• Demonstrated ability to lead research programs across multiple institutions
• Demonstrated ability to effectively manage a joint appointment between different organisational units
• Demonstrated contributions to policy debates and practice.

**Seminar**

Applicants invited for interview may be expected to present a research and teaching 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 full-time 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.