POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Research Fellow (Social Responsibility)
Organisation Unit: Centre for Coal Seam Gas
Position Number: 3039120
Type of Employment: Fixed Term, Fixed Term for 2 years
Classification: Academic Research Level B

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 (45), the US News Best Global Universities Rankings (52), QS World University Rankings (51), Academic Ranking of World Universities (55), and the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (60). UQ again topped the nation in the prestigious Nature Index; and secured a greater share of Australian Research Council grants in 2016 ($24.5 million) than any other university nationally.

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 230,000-plus alumni. The University has about 7,000 academic and professional staff and a $1.7 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 $11 billion+ (see http://uniquest.com.au/our-track-record).

UQ has a rapidly growing record of attracting philanthropic support for its activities and will have further success in this area as an important strategic aim going forward.

Organisational Environment

Australia’s onshore natural gas industry has expanded rapidly with the establishment of a new Coal Seam Gas-Liquefied Natural Gas industry in Queensland. In this evolving environment, The University of Queensland recognised a need for a coordinated access point to address the community, government and industry challenges.

The Centre for Coal Seam Gas (CCSG) was established in 2012 to conduct and support research and education within onshore gas, creating a scientific energy platform.

The Centre conducts research and supports education in key discipline areas including economics, business, petroleum engineering, geosciences, water, ecology and social sciences. The Centre also provides independent advice to industry and government on policy or business-relevant matters, leadership on scientific and technical issues as well as strategic planning.

Led by the Centre Director, the Centre is managed by a core team who oversees its operations. Central to the team are five professorial research chairs who cover the areas of geoscience, petroleum engineering, groundwater and social performance.

The Centre draws on the extensive research and educational capabilities across UQ’s schools and institutes and collaborates with industry and research organisations, nationally and internationally.

For more information about the Centre, please visit: https://ccsg.centre.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

DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

The Research Fellow will conduct and coordinate activities focusing on social responsibility research. The position is responsible for contributing to the design of research activities, engaging with relevant stakeholders, collating and analysing data and contributing to the interpretation and reporting of results. The research work will include significant consultation with community, CSG industry and government stakeholders regarding research needs and strategies. The Research Fellow will work collaboratively with researchers in the University of Queensland’s faculties and research centres, as well as those from other research institutions.
Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

**Research**
- Data collection, data management and data interpretation,
- Supervision of field work programs and participation in field work,
- Participate in the development of research proposals,
- Close liaison with the sponsor industry including verbal and written reports,
- Publish research in high quality journals,
- Present the results at scientific conferences, industry meetings, and relevant academic and industry conferences,
- Provide a mentoring role for PhD students,
- Foster close working relations with existing and potential industry partners.

**Teamwork**
- Work as an integral part of a diverse project team and contribute to the overall performance of the team,
- Liaise closely with the professorial chair and other senior Centre academics.

**Engagement**
- Establish and maintain close working relationships with stakeholders within the community, CSG companies and all levels of government,
- Engage with fellow researchers with University of Queensland faculties and collaborating research institutions,

**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 to the Centre Director.
SELECTION CRITERIA

*Essential*
- A PhD in a social science discipline,
- Working or researching in government, industry, the community sector or another field including knowledge of key social responsibility challenges facing the CCSG industry, such as significant changes in rural communities (ideally coal seam gas development),
- Knowledge of a range of applied social science research methods,
- Ability to identify emerging research opportunities and build new programs of work,
- Ability to complete and publish high-quality work,
- Experience in supervising research higher degree students,
- Ability to work collaboratively and productively with colleagues and postgraduate students,
- Ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.

*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.