POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Science Collaboration & Partnerships Officer
Organisation Unit: School of Earth and Environmental Sciences
Position Number: TBA
Type of Employment: Part time, Fixed Term, 0.5 FTE
Classification: HEW 7.1

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 (60). 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 School of Earth and Environmental Sciences is a vibrant, multidisciplinary School with extensive teaching and research programs covering the fields of Geology, Geography, Environmental Management, Occupational Health and Safety Sciences and Planning. The School offers a wide range of undergraduate programs including Bachelor’s degrees in Arts (Geography) and Science (Geological and Geographical Science), a Bachelor of Environmental Management and Environmental Science, Occupational Health and Safety Science and a Bachelor of Regional and Town Planning. Honours in Geology, Geography, Geophysics, and Computational Earth Sciences. Coursework masters degrees are offered in Mineral Resources, Environmental Management, Geographic Information Science, Occupational Health and Safety Science and Urban and Regional Planning and the School also contributes to the multi-school Master of Development Practice. The School offers postgraduate training in research via the Master of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy and currently has over 150 students enrolled in these degrees. The School has a strong research profile and enjoys an excellent success rate in nationally competitive grants and has a strong record of high quality publications.

The project is based within the Remote Sensing Research Centre (www.rsrc.org.au) and its Joint Remote Sensing Research Program (www.jrsrp.org.au). It will include activities with two major national coordination programs run by these centres, the Australian Earth Observation Community Coordination Group (www.aeoccg.org.au) and the Earth Observation for Government Network (EOGN). Both of these activities provide national coordination and enable collaboration across all sectors of Australia’s Earth Observation Community. AEOCCG is the national body working across Government, research, education and private industry. EOGN is a new initiative for 2017 funded by Geoscience Australia, and is focussed on continental, Commonwealth Government scale activities.

Staff and Resources

The School of Earth and Environmental Sciences is part of the Faculty of Science and is located on the St Lucia campus (Brisbane) of the University. The School has 104 academic staff, and 23 administrative and technical staff. There is a large contingent of research appointments and the School has been active in establishing a range of adjunct positions in order to promote engagement with leaders in government and the professions.

The School hosts world-class facilities which include a state-of-art planning studio, GIS computer laboratories and extensive analytical infrastructure. Our facilities include high-end sample preparation facilities and a laboratory complex that includes radiogenic and stable isotopes, major and trace element geochemistry, noble gas geochemistry and geochronology, coal petrology and organic geochemistry, geomicrobiology and fluid inclusion facilities. Its Centre for Geoscience Computing conducts research on the mechanics and physics of solid earth processes, on all scales, using supercomputer simulation. Advanced computational technologies and simulation software development are
applied to a wide range of industrial and environmental fields and provide a driver for innovation in the general area of simulation-assisted design, specifically in the sustainable energy, earth resources, mass mining and geotechnical sectors. Further information and details of the research interests of academic staff may be accessed on the School's web site at http://www.sees.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 primary role of the selected candidate will be working across the Joint Remote Sensing Research Program, specifically Australian Earth Observation Community Coordination Group (www.aeoccg.org.au) and the Geoscience Australia “Earth Observation for Government Network” to develop and implement scientific coordination and collaboration across all sectors of Australia’s Earth Observation Community.

In the JRSRP (Joint Remote Sensing Research Program,) role (0.3 FTE of the 0.5 FTE), the primary purpose of this position is to enable more effective communication, awareness and uptake of JRSRP products, algorithms and personnel across Australian and international Earth Observation application areas. The position will pay a significant role in placing appropriate communication materials, in appropriate media, reports and briefings, to ensure that all levels of government in Australia and the international earth observation community is aware of the products, capacity and applications of the JRSRP. Historically we have left our science and applications stand on their merits and have note actively communicate how well they work and how well they solve problems at national and international levels. This position will work closely with all JRSRP scientists and partner agencies to develop material on what they do, why it is the best, and how it can be built on and used.

In the EOGN (Earth Observation for Government Network) role (0.2 FTE of the 0.5 FTE), collecting and providing advice and information on government applications of Earth Observations (EO). This framework will provide advice and information for use by Commonwealth, state/territory and local governments in Australia, and be shared with the broader EO community. EOGN will address a critical function outlined in the Australian EO Community’s 10 year plan to more effectively link and coordinate Australian Government agencies to key state/territory agencies and EO industry and research sectors (see Figure below – from Australian Earth Observation Community Plan 2026, www.aeoccg.org.au/aeocp-the-plan ).
Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- To enable more effective communication, awareness and uptake of JRSRP products, algorithms and personnel across Australian and international Earth Observation application areas
- Place appropriate communication materials, in appropriate media, reports and briefings, to ensure that all levels of government in Australia and the international earth observation community is aware of the products, capacity and applications of the JRSRP
- Make presentations to team members and the wider research community on current projects.
- Develop effective timelines and milestones based on goals of the research and development program.
- To coordinate the development and delivery of the “Earth Observation for Government” network in collaboration with Geoscience Australia. This will require communication, awareness and workshop development and delivery for GA EO capabilities across Australian and international Earth Observation application areas.
- Undertake projects for new initiatives and business improvements that support the Centre’s strategic objectives and ongoing development and evaluation of contemporary research services.
- Any other duties as reasonably directed by your supervisor

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 Stuart Phinn

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- Degree in an applicable field and relevant experience and / or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and / or education / training.
• Demonstrated high level interpersonal communication skills, especially in science to multiple levels of management agencies, to effectively communicate and build constructive relationships with staff, students, visitors including those from diverse cultural backgrounds and at all levels of seniority.

• High-level organisational skills including the ability to operate independently within established frameworks and guidelines while prioritising competing work demands and meeting deadlines.

• Demonstrated high level computer skills: word processing databases, spreadsheets, internet and email; proficiency with use of the Microsoft Office suite.

• Ability to work flexibly and with autonomy and sound judgement, and exercise initiative and innovation.

• Demonstrated ability to be professional, diplomatic and to maintain confidentiality.

• High level of work ethic and integrity commensurate with the importance of this position.

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.

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