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POSITION DESCRIPTION

Pedagogical Leader

Position Level

Level

Faculty/Division

Arts, Design & Architecture

Position Number

00112434

Original document creation

01/07/202

Position Summary

The Culturally Nourishing Schooling (CNS) project is a three-year practice/research informed program to better engage and support the education of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. The collaborative project between universities, local communities, and schools, aims to establish a culturally focused and strengths-based program that supports whole school change. The overarching focus of this project is the professional learning of a critical mass of informed teachers and school leaders, Aboriginal families, and communities in the support of sustainable improvements in the educational outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. The project is directly supported by a range of key stakeholders including local AECG committees, collaborating research schools, the New South Wales Department of Education, the Paul Ramsay Foundation, and the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA).

The project focuses on a range of whole school, community, and pedagogic interventions. A core stream of activity includes five integrated strategies within schools over the course of each school year.

These interventions are to be undertaken in collaboration with teachers and support their engagement in collaborating with Aboriginal staff, including Aboriginal Education Officers, Cultural Mentors, and communities. This is with a view to transform curriculum and teaching and to optimise learning and instruction in ways that resonates with students interests and needs.

The successful candidate would be required to work closely with four rural and remote NSW schools in the Southern and Central NSW and developing a strong and coherent professional learning agenda to support teachers in each of the research school sites. The goal is to affect significant changes that align to the intentions of the Culturally Nourishing Schools (CNS) project and to take co-leadership with the school and the leading researcher to support change in teachers' pedagogic and curriculum practices. The candidate will work very closely with the CNS project Chief Investigators in their research activity with school principals, the CNS project staff, the school's project liaison/contact staff and their professional learning team of educators, in developing a coherent and sustained model of supported professional practice.

The successful candidate will contribute to research related activities such as gathering, analysing, writing up and presenting research data in support of the program and its progress with teachers within the research schools. The candidate must be able to work closely with school-based Aboriginal staff, especially the Aboriginal Education Support Officers and the Cultural Mentors and build effective relationships with the schools' Principals and Head of Professional Learnings.

Preference will be given to candidates who have completed post-graduate studies in an area commensurate with the focus of this project, have experience in leading school professional learning, and a proven ability and capacity and interest to take the lead writing publishable reports. Further, the Pedagogic Leader would be required to attend and take the lead in elements of the research-practice program in each school site, and as such requires the successful candidate to travel to the research schools.

The Pedagogical Leader will report to the project lead Chief Investigator Associate Professor Kevin Lowe. The candidate will be offered a one-year contract with the possibility of extension.

Accountabilities

Specific accountabilities for this role include:

- Prepare and conduct high-quality professional learning for teachers in line with the underpinning practices of the Culturally Nourishing Schools project.*
- Work effectively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.*
- Work both independently and as part of project teams.*
- Prepare and publish high level reports and other publications, including those with joint authorship with other team members*

- *Undertake project management duties and maintain records consistent with ethical, legal, and professional requirements to progress research activities and organisational reporting obligations.*
- *Present research-practice program outcomes at seminars, conferences and industry meetings, and engage with external stakeholders, to contribute to public understanding and debate through media, industry and/or policy engagement.*
- *Participate in regular meetings and undertake other research and administration activities related to the role as required.*
- *Align with and actively demonstrate the [UNSW Values in Action: Our Behaviours](#) and the [UNSW Code of Conduct](#).*
- *Cooperate with all health and safety policies and procedures of the university and take all reasonable care to ensure that your actions or omissions do not impact on the health and safety of yourself or others.*

Skills and Experience

- *Relevant teaching qualifications, be eligible for teacher registration in NSW and have recent teaching experience leading school professional learning. Desirable - qualifications in a relevant area of study (e.g. Teaching and learning, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander studies, Cross-cultural education, school leadership or curriculum implementation) would be highly regarded.*
- *Experience in leading and modeling teaching and learning practices in classrooms and supporting professional conversations with teachers.*
- *Proven writing skills, for a variety of audiences including teachers and schools.*
- *Demonstrated capacity to: work independently, to lead a project in a professional learning context, and working collaboratively to achieve Professional Learning outcomes.*
- *Ability and enthusiasm for working with schools and learning communities in rural and remote settings, including willingness and capacity for frequent travel and facilitate in-person professional learning activities.*
- *High level oral and interpersonal, written and verbal, and cross-cultural communication skills including the ability to interpret and present ideas to diverse audiences.*
- *An understanding of and commitment to UNSW's aims, objectives, and values in action, together with relevant policies and guidelines.*
- *Knowledge of health and safety responsibilities and commitment to attending relevant health and safety training.*

Pre-employment checks required for this position

- *Verification of qualifications and current Working with Children's Check.*

About this document

This Position Description outlines the objectives, desired outcomes, key responsibilities, accountabilities, required skills, experience and desired behaviours required to successfully perform the role.

This template is not intended to limit the scope or accountabilities of the position. Characteristics of the position may be