



Position Description

Technical Officer, Cropping Research

AgriPark

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research

Classification	Level 5
Special conditions	Employment Screening – Functional Assessment Out of hours and weekend work
Workplace agreement	Charles Sturt University Enterprise Agreement
Date last reviewed	July 2024

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research

AgriPark

The Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research is responsible for leading Charles Sturt University's research agenda to enhance research impact, output and engagement. This includes research training, partnerships, innovation, and commercialisation. A key focus is the development and implementation of strategies in these areas that increase capability, quality and impact in accordance with the goals of the university. The portfolio also includes First Nations engagement, which is a key area of importance for Charles Sturt University.

To deliver on the university goal of research excellence, the university has established three research institutes, all with a digital and regional focus:

1. Gulbali Institute
2. Rural Health Research Institute
3. Artificial Intelligence and Cyber Futures Research Institute.

The Agrisciences Research and Business Park (AgriPark) based on Charles Sturt University's Wagga Wagga campus is a key step in the University's long held vision and commitment to support, facilitate and grow the nations agricultural sector. It provides dedicated infrastructure, services and support to allow innovative industry to co-locate, integrate and collaborate with each other and the multidisciplinary research strengths at Charles Sturt University to meet emerging national and global challenges and enable major advances over the coming decades.

The AgriPark is an innovation precinct that facilitates wealth creation, employment and skills development and is recognised as a world leading centre for agricultural innovation, education,



extension, research and development and business opportunity. The clearly articulated intention of the AgriPark is to create an ecosystem of innovative organisations and to curate collaborations between all participants

Organisational chart



Reporting relationship

This position reports to: Manager, University Farms

This position supervises: Nil

Key working relationships

- Charles Sturt University research team members
- School of Agricultural, Environment and Veterinary Sciences
- Gulbali Institute
- Global Digital Farm
- External research project collaborators (CSIRO, State departments in NSW, SA and WA, University of Melbourne, University of Adelaide, Australian National University, various plant breeding companies and farming systems groups)

Position overview

The successful candidate will be responsible for managing field operations and assisting research activities as part of a collaborative research team. The role will work across projects which bring



together a multidisciplinary team of research expertise across including areas of crop agronomy and physiology, applied genetics and livestock production, as a consortium to deliver improved outcomes to industry.

The Technical Officer will be responsible for the operation and management of field equipment to support the field experimental program at Charles Sturt University and assist with research activities across research programs in crop agronomy and mixed-farming systems.

Principal responsibilities

- **Values:** Consistently embody the University's values in behaviour and decision-making, while encouraging inclusivity and collaboration to foster a safe and respectful work environment.
- Stay current with advancements in research technology and apply data management systems such as AgriWebb, Harvest Master, Greenstar, GPS technology, or demonstrate the ability to acquire these skills to achieve work objectives. Lead the implementation of field experiments, ensuring the proficient operation and maintenance of advanced research equipment, including tractors, GPS devices, sprayers, plot harvesters, and specialised scientific instruments.
- Assist with research activities including monitoring phenology, crop and pasture growth and livestock handling under field conditions.
- Utilize strong time management skills to juggle multiple tasks, adapt to shifting priorities, and meet tight deadlines with initiative and sound decision-making. Collaborate with CSU research teams and external partners to efficiently coordinate and implement experiments on schedule.
- Co-ordinate casual staff tasks and assist other professional/general staff as required.
- Other duties appropriate to the classification as required.

Required capabilities

This section comprises capabilities from the Charles Sturt [Capability Framework](#). Read the Framework for more detail regarding these capabilities.

Capability	Capability Definition	Level of influence
Innovates		
Acts Strategically	Analyses opportunities to determine effective solutions and solve problems in order to achieve short and long-term objectives.	Influence self
Optimises Digital Environment & Data	Builds own knowledge of new technologies, adopts appropriately and uses data to draw insightful conclusions.	Influence self
Connects		
Builds Relationships	Implements interdisciplinary collaboration, adopts diversity and inclusion principles, and facilitates relationship building to work effectively with others.	Influence self
Achieves		
Plans and Prioritises	Effectively plans and aligns priorities with strategy. Effectively allocates and utilises resources to achieve goals.	Influence self
Optimises Outcomes	Consistently achieves desired results as evidenced through measurement. Recognises accomplishments by praising achievements and sharing success stories to promote learning.	Influence self



<p>Drives Impact</p>	<p>Collaboratively engages with peers and stakeholders in the community and industry. Places our people and students at the centre of design decisions.</p>	<p>Influence self</p>
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Physical capabilities

The incumbent may be required to perform the following.

- This position may involve work under harsh conditions in the field within the terms of the University’s policy of thermal comfort available at <http://www.csu.edu.au/division/hr/health-safetywellbeing/risk-management>
- This position will involve regular travel by motor vehicle over long distances within the terms of the University’s Driving Hours Policy available at <http://www.csu.edu.au/division/hr/health-safetywellbeing/ohs-management-system>
- Consideration should also be given to regular computer-based activities in line with the University’s risk management on office and workstation ergonomics available at <http://www.csu.edu.au/division/hr/health-safety-wellbeing/risk-management>
- Perform in an accurate and timely manner push/pull, reaching, grasping, fine manipulation tasks, including lifting items up to 10kg.
- Possess the physical ability to carry out shelving duties, such as frequent bending, reaching/stretching, squatting and repetitive lifting

Selection criteria

Applicants are expected to address the selection criteria when applying for this position.

Essential

- A. Completion of a degree without subsequent relevant work experience as a graduate upon appointment; or completion of an associate diploma with at least 2 years’ subsequent relevant work experience; or completion of a certificate or a post-trade certificate and extensive subsequent relevant experience; or an equivalent level of knowledge gained through any other combination of education, training and/or experience.
- B. Demonstrated experience and understanding in field operations (e.g. tractor, gps, spraying and chemical handling, harvester) relevant to the principal responsibilities.
- C. Excellent time management skills, with a demonstrated ability to respond to changing priorities, manage multiple tasks and meet competing deadlines by using judgement and initiative.
- D. Application of data management systems (e.g. gps systems), or the ability to acquire skills in the application of technology to achieve work objectives.
- E. Current NSW Driver’s Licence.
- F. Current ChemCert Chemical Accreditation or willingness to attain.