



Position Title: CSIRO UWA Research Associate (1 Position)

Position Classification: Academic Level A Step 8

Position Number:

Faculty/Office: Office of Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)

School/Division: UWA Oceans Institute

Supervisor Title: Director, UWA Oceans Institute

Supervisor Position Number: 307981

About the University

The University of Western Australia has an international reputation for excellence and enterprise and has been rated as one of the best comprehensive universities in Australia. It is one of the country's leading research institutions as demonstrated by our Nobel Laureate and is the only WA member of the prestigious "Group of Eight" research universities.

Vision and Values

The University of Western Australia vision is achieving international excellence.

UWA's core values are underpinned by its commitment to:

- A high performance culture designed to achieve international excellence
- Academic freedom to encourage staff and students to engage in the open exchange of ideas and thought
- Continuous improvement through self-examination and external review
- Fostering the values of openness, honesty, tolerance, fairness, trust and responsibility in social, moral and academic matters
- Transparency in decision making and accountability
- Equity and merit as the fundamental principles for the achievement of the full potential of all staff and students

All staff are expected to comply with the Code of Ethics and the University's Code of Conduct and demonstrate a commitment to its Equity, Diversity and Safety principles and the General Capabilities of personal effectiveness, working collaboratively and demonstrating a focus on results. Details of the University policies on these can be accessed at http://www.hr.uwa.edu.au/publications/code_of_ethics, <http://www.equity.uwa.edu.au> and <http://www.safety.uwa.edu.au/policies>.

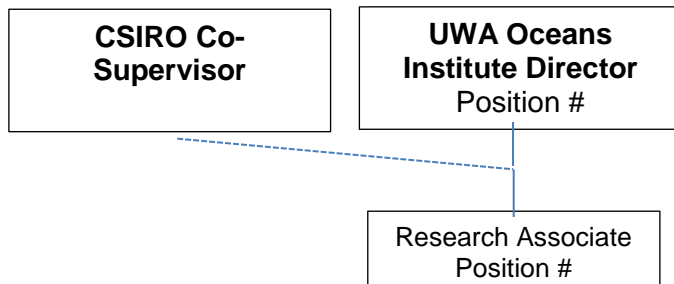
About the work area

The UWA Oceans Institute brings together the strength of UWA's marine researchers into a multidisciplinary, integrated research focus. The goal is to capitalise on UWA's existing research strengths – in areas such as oceanography, ecology, engineering, resource management, and governance – and utilise them to deliver Ocean Solutions for Humanity's Grand Challenges (<http://www.oceans.uwa.edu.au/>).

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) is Australia's preeminent scientific organisation. CSIRO plays a central role in the translation of science and technology into products and services that benefit our nation and enhance our productivity and our prosperity. (<http://www.csiro.au>).

CSIRO and UWA have a long-standing collaborative relationship including co-location at the Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre in Western Australia. The Partners have recently entered into a research collaboration agreement for the project in the area outlined in this position description.

Organisation chart



Role statement

The position will take a lead role in a research theme around socio-ecology with a particular focus on Social Licence to Operate. Attitudes underlying the granting of 'Social Licence to Operate' are likely to fluctuate as a result of overall volatility in environmental outlooks, economic climate and political mood. While changes in social attitudes at a global or national scale may be relatively easy to detect, changes at the local scale may go unnoticed. For specific development initiatives local attitudes may be as important as global ones in the granting of Social Licence to Operate. In this research theme we would like to develop a virtual 'thermometer' of local social mood which can help predict attitudes towards the granting of 'Social Licence to Operate' for specific projects.

Previous work has identified a number of archetypical attitudes towards economic development, social relations, the environment and the future, as well as a number of specific beliefs which provide signatures for these attitudes. A thermometer will monitor fluctuations in public endorsement of these areas. The research will involve collation and analysis of attitudes and opinions, predications and validation of those predications, and the development of a thermometer for specific environmental issues.

The researchers will be responsible for their research, including sampling design, field work, effective team collaboration and liaising between UWA and CSIRO research partners and supervision of technical staff.

Key responsibilities

Research & Engagement

- Develop a collaborative project and conduct research in the above research area
- Establish an integrated research program that spans both the spatial and cross disciplinary approaches of CSIRO and UWA research programs
- Liaise with stakeholders from each of the partner organisations to ensure project delivery meets their needs as well as those of the research team.
- Fulfilling milestones of collaborative projects
- Create a collaborative research link between the UWA Oceans Institute and CSIRO
- Communicate results across the two institutions and the marine research sector
- Promote research via research papers and presentations at national and international conferences
- Participate in engagement and outreach activities to promote and communicate research to the public
- Value-add to existing research programs through meta-analysis of existing datasets owned by both CSIRO and UWA

Leadership

- Supervise UWA and CSIRO field assistants, and UWA PhD and MSc research students as required
- Contribute to discussions on the organisation and planning of research as required

Other

- Other duties as required

Specific work capabilities (selection criteria)

- PhD in sociology, behavioural science, statistics, media studies, marine conservation, natural resource economics, marine management or related field
- Demonstrated independent research skills, as evidenced by relevant publications and/or scientific reports
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience in the application of theory, statistics, quantitative and sampling methodologies
- Well-developed interpersonal and communication skills
- Proven ability to work within a collaborative team
- Understanding of research principles and applications
- A recognition and focus on workplace health and safety and promoting a supportive culture in addition to hazard reporting, risk analysis and following appropriate policies and procedures
- Drivers licence
- A willingness to go beyond minimal requirements, a strong work ethic and a cooperative 'can-do' attitude will be well regarded

Special Requirements

N/A

Position Approvals

Approvals are now electronic. No signature section needed.