Australian National University

Position Description

College/Division:	ANU College of Science
Faculty/School/Centre:	Research School of Biology
Department/Unit:	Division of Plant Sciences
Position Title:	Postdoctoral Fellow
Classification:	Academic Level A / B
Position No:	TBC
Responsible to:	Prof Susanne von Caemmerer
Number of positions that report to this role:	-
Delegation(s) Assigned:	-

PURPOSE STATEMENT:

The Postdoctoral Fellow / Research Fellow supports research objectives outlined in the funding document and is a member of International RIPE consortium within the Division of Plant Sciences at the Research School of Biology.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITY AREAS:

Position Dimension & Relationships:

The Postdoctoral Fellow/Research Fellow reports to Prof Susanne von Caemmerer, and provides support, advice and, if necessary, training to students and other staff in the research group.

Role Statement:

Specific duties required of a **Level A / B Academic** include:

1. Undertake independent research in the area of Molecular Biology with a view to publishing original and innovative results in refereed journals, present research at academic seminars and at national and international conferences, and collaborate with other researchers at a national level. This includes working as part of a team on an externally funded project subject to deadlines.
2. Carry out research designed to manipulate CO_2 diffusion or chloroplast electron transport rate and construct new transgenic plants Nicotiana tabacum for analysis.
3. Engage in physiological and biochemical analysis of transgenic Nicotiana tabacum plants.
4. Collaborate with senior staff to actively seek and secure external funding, assist to prepare and submit research proposals to external funding bodies as appropriate.
5. Subject to the requirements of the funding source, and where an opportunity exists, contribute to the teaching activities of the School at the undergraduate and graduate levels. This includes, but is not limited to, the preparation and delivery of lectures and tutorials, the preparation of online material, marking and assessment, consultations, and with students or acting as subject coordinators.
6. Supervise students working on individual or group projects at undergraduate, honours, graduate-coursework levels. Assist with supervision of research students.
7. Assist to supervise research support staff in the research area.
8. Actively contribute to all aspects of the operation of the School.
9. Assist in outreach activities including to prospective students, research institutes, industry, government, the media and the general public.

10. Maintain high academic standards in all education, research and administration endeavours.
11. Comply with all ANU policies and procedures, and in particular those relating to work health and safety and equal opportunity
12. Other duties as required consistent with the classification level of the position.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Academic Level A

1. A PhD (or awarding of a PhD within six months of appointment commencement) in Biology, with a track record of independent research in the field of Molecular Biology as evidenced by publications in peer-reviewed journals and conferences

2. Demonstrated skill in general molecular biological techniques including: DNA cloning, PCR applications, restriction analysis, DNA sequencing; as well as skills in analysis of proteins including electrophoresis, western blotting. Experience in Golden Gate cloning and Southern blotting is desirable.

3. An ability and commitment to contribute to bids for competitive external funding to support individual and collaborative research activities.

4. Demonstrated experience with aspects of photosynthetic research in higher plants including gas exchange measurements of photosynthesis. Demonstrated experience with aspects of plant transformation systems and tissue culture techniques is highly desirable.

5. Ability and willingness to teach at all levels within the scope of the project, as well as the ability to assist in the supervision of students working on research projects.

6. Excellent oral and written English language skills and a demonstrated ability to work as part of a team and to deadlines, to communicate and interact effectively with a variety of staff and students in a cross-disciplinary academic environment and to foster respectful and productive working relationships with staff, students and colleagues at all levels.

7. A demonstrated high-level understanding of equal opportunity principles and a commitment to the application of these policies in a University context.

A Level A research academic will typically conduct research/scholarly activities under limited supervision either independently or as a member of a team and will normally hold a relevant higher degree.

A Level A research academic will normally work under the supervision of academic staff at Level B or above, with an increasing degree of autonomy as the research academic gains skills and experience. A Level A research academic may undertake limited teaching, may supervise at undergraduate levels and may publish the results of the research conducted as sole author or in collaboration. They will undertake administration primarily relating to their activities at the institution.

References: Academic Minimum Standards

SELECTION CRITERIA

Academic Level B

1. A PhD in Biology or a related area, with a track record of independent research in the field of Molecular Biology as evidenced by publications in peer-reviewed journals and conferences, a record of developing and maintaining collaborations and by other measures such as awards, invitations to give talks at leading conferences etc.

2. Evidence of the ability to articulate and prosecute innovative research in the field of Molecular Biology and/or Plant Physiology and a vision for the activities they will undertake at the ANU.

3. Demonstrated skill in general molecular biological techniques including; DNA cloning, PCR applications, restriction analysis and DNA sequencing as well as skills in analysis of proteins including electrophoresis, western blotting. Experience in Golden Gate cloning and Southern blotting is desirable.

4. Demonstrated experience with aspects of photosynthetic research in higher plants including gas exchange measurements of photosynthesis. Demonstrated experience with aspects of plant transformation systems and tissue culture techniques is highly desirable.

5. An ability and commitment to win bids for competitive external funding to support individual and collaborative research activities.

6. Ability and willingness to teach at all levels and the ability to supervise and graduate high quality PhD/Masters research students.

7. Excellent oral and written English language skills and a demonstrated ability to communicate and interact effectively with a variety of staff and students in a cross-disciplinary academic environment and to foster respectful and productive working relationships with staff, students and colleagues at all levels.

8. A demonstrated high-level understanding of equal opportunity principles and a commitment to the application of these policies in a University context.

References: Academic Minimum Standards