



Position Description

College/Division:	ANU College of Science
Faculty/School/Centre:	Research School of Astronomy and Astrophysics
Department/Unit:	Anglo-Australian Telescopes (AAT) Unit
Position Title:	Mechanical Technician
Classification:	ANU Officer Grade 4/5 (Technical)
Position No:	12930
Responsible to:	Mechanical Manager
Number of positions that report to this role:	0
Delegation(s) Assigned:	

PURPOSE STATEMENT:

Siding Spring Observatory (SSO) is home to Australia's largest optical observatory, supporting research for the Australian National University's Research School of Astronomy and Astrophysics (RSAA), consortium members of the Anglo-Australian Telescope (AAT), and several national and international telescopes.

RSAA develops and maintains instrumentation for astronomy and space science. Examples include the robotic 2df fibre positioner on the AAT, which can simultaneously observe hundreds of galaxies and stars, and the Wide-Field Spectrograph (WiFeS), installed on the 2.3-metre telescope.

The Mechanical Technician directly supports high-quality research by the design, development, installation and maintenance of experimental equipment and apparatus for astronomical research.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITY AREAS:

Position Dimension & Relationships:

Reporting to the Mechanical Manager, and working in a small team environment, the Mechanical Technician provides specialist mechanical support to equipment and scientific instruments across SSO.

They will maintain professional working relationships with a variety of cross-functional staff, researchers and students within the AAT, RSAA and more broadly with personnel in related fields across the University.

Role Statement:

Under the general direction of the Mechanical Manager, the Mechanical Technician will:

1. Perform fault finding, repair and maintenance on a broad range of specialised mechanical equipment and scientific instruments ensuring all equipment is ready for installation on the telescope.
2. Fabricate, modify, diagnose, repair, operate and test unique scientific components, equipment, and infrastructure using specialised mechanical equipment and innovative techniques.
3. Contribute to the timely repair, maintenance and upgrade services for mechanical equipment including registered plant equipment, with particular attention to statutory and regulatory requirements.
4. Liaise with University staff and students as required providing technical advice at the design and development phase of scientific projects.
5. Operate mechanical workshop machinery.
6. Assist in the production of reports and documentation associated with mechanical facilities, including monthly mechanical project reports.
7. Provide assistance to support general SSO operations, including but not limited to, participation in instrument changes and mirror aluminising activities, supporting observers, repairing and maintaining telescopes and associated support equipment.
8. Maintain awareness of Work Health and Safety legislation and support a safe work environment for staff and/or contractors through the implementation and use of safe work procedures and reporting incidents, exposures, hazards or health and or safety concerns in accordance with University procedure.
9. Comply with all ANU policies and procedures, and in particular those relating to work, health and safety and equal opportunity.

10. Undertake other duties as required, consistent with the classification of the position and in line with the principle of multiskilling.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

1. An associate diploma or equivalent combination of relevant experience and education/training.
2. Demonstrated ability to design, construct, test, diagnose and repair a broad range of mechanical equipment within a scientific environment.
3. Excellent written and oral communication skills with the capacity the demonstrated ability to work individually and harmoniously as part of a team and to liaise effectively with staff, students and contractors from a diverse range of backgrounds and experience.
4. Well-developed organisational skills with demonstrated experience working to deadlines prioritising own work, using initiative and judgement in the achievement of operational outcomes.
5. A demonstrated understanding of equal opportunity principles and a commitment to the application of EO policies in a university context.

ANU Officer Levels 4 and 5 are broadbanded in this stream. It is expected that at the higher levels within the broadband occupants, through experience, will have developed skills and expertise enabling them to more independently perform the full range of duties at a higher level, and that more time will be spent on the more complex functions of the position.

Background Checking:

The ANU conducts background checks on potential employees, and employment in this position is conditional on satisfactory results in accordance with the [Background Checking Procedure](#) which sets out the types of checks required by each type of position.

Delegate Signature:		Date:	April 2018
Printed Name:		Position:	

References:

[Professional Staff Classification Descriptors](#)