



Australian
National
University



INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES
FOR THE POSITION OF

DIRECTOR, NATIONAL CENTRE FOR
INDIGENOUS STUDIES

ANU Office of
the Vice-Chancellor

Acknowledgement of country

We acknowledge and celebrate the First Australians on whose traditional lands we meet and work, and whose cultures are among the oldest continuing cultures in human history.



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MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

The Australian National University (ANU) is unique in Australia. Ranked in the world top 25 by QS, and based in our capital city, ANU is charting a new strategic course to redefine the role of a contemporary national university.

Welcome to our University, and thank you for your interest in the role of Director, National Centre for Indigenous Studies (NCIS).

Created in 1946 as part of Australia's post-war nation-building, the University's far-sighted founders envisioned a research-intensive university of excellence that would help Australia grow its economy, develop its society and take its place in the world.

As part of this vision and as Australia's national university, we have a unique responsibility to Indigenous Australia: to shape and advance the national conversation on reconciliation and recognition, progress vital research on issues impacting the lives of Indigenous peoples, and to provide a stimulating and supportive home for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander scholars and leaders.

For more than a decade, the NCIS has developed scholarly and public understanding of Australian Indigenous cultures and histories both nationally and internationally. Given its strong reputation in Indigenous research, the NCIS also plays a pivotal role in delivering the goals outlined in our University Strategic Plan and Reconciliation Action Plan.

The Director will lead this flagship Centre forward, with a renewed remit to engage across our institution and disciplines. They will deepen our understanding of Indigenous histories and cultures, and ensure that Indigenous knowledge, perspectives and experiences are respected and incorporated into our activities.

It will be a challenging and rewarding role that requires a candidate who is able to work collaboratively to deliver on important goals for our University, our Indigenous communities and our nation. The right candidate will be a strategic and operational leader and may have a non-traditional academic background.

If you want to achieve national impact through research, education and outreach, and contribute to the exceptional legacy of achievement of the NCIS, then I encourage you to reach out for confidential discussion.

Professor Brian P. Schmidt AC FAA FRS

Vice-Chancellor and President
The Australian National University

A video message from Professor Brian Schmidt, Nobel Laureate and ANU Vice-Chancellor and President, can be found [here](#)



THE UNIVERSITY

The Australian National University (ANU) is one of the world's foremost research universities. Distinguished by its relentless pursuit of excellence, the University attracts leading academics and outstanding students from Australia and around the world.

Further information about ANU can be found at: anu.edu.au/about.

History

The ANU was established by the Commonwealth Parliament in 1946, specifically to lead the development of the intellectual capacity of the nation through research and research training in line with the highest international standards. It is the only Australian university established by a Commonwealth Act of Parliament. In 1960, the University accepted responsibility for undergraduate education along with an expectation that the highest standards of education would be achieved.

Scale

The ANU has 4,300 staff, 10,286 undergraduates and 6,925 postgraduate students. Its annual revenue exceeds \$1.0 billion and consolidated assets are worth \$2.5 billion.

Partnerships

The ANU has strong links with leading research institutions in Australia and overseas. It is a founding member of the International Alliance of Research Universities, a co-operative network of 10 eminent international research-intensive universities which includes:

- > University of Cambridge
- > University of Oxford
- > University of California, Berkeley
- > Yale University
- > Peking University
- > National University of Singapore
- > University of Tokyo
- > University of Copenhagen
- > ETH Zurich
- > University of Cape Town

Research-intensive education

As the specially-chartered national university, the ANU conducts research at the highest levels in all of its colleges, and offers a unique research-led education to undergraduate and postgraduate students as well as postdoctoral fellows.

The University advances the national intellectual and creative capacity in three key ways:

1. Through broad-based research and research-intensive education in the disciplines fundamental to all knowledge: the humanities, the sciences and the social sciences,
2. By supporting research and research-intensive education in a spectrum of professional disciplines, and
3. By studying Australia in its various contexts.

It is the University's aim to achieve its objectives by creating an inspirational working environment for all its staff, students and visitors.

In each of its endeavours, the ANU strives to achieve at the levels of the world's great universities.

Location

The ANU campus has over 200 buildings and occupies 147 hectares adjacent to the city centre of Canberra. The University also has a number of smaller campuses:

- > Mount Stromlo Observatory (west of Canberra)
- > Siding Spring Observatory (near Coonabarabran, western New South Wales)
- > North Australia Research Unit (Darwin, Northern Territory)
- > Kioloa (coastal campus near Bawley Point, on the New South Wales South Coast)
- > ANU Medical School – The Canberra Hospital campus
- > ANU Medical School – Calvary Hospital
- > Health Facilities in South East New South Wales

UNIVERSITY COLLEGES

ANU has seven academic colleges, each housing the schools and research centres that are at the heart of the University's academic excellence.

The ANU Colleges link research and teaching at undergraduate, postgraduate and higher degree levels. They undertake world-class research and provide education programs at the highest standards.

anu.edu.au/about/academic-colleges

ANU College of Arts & Social Sciences

The ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS) is the research and education college for the broad disciplines of the creative arts, humanities and the social sciences. The College has two research schools - the Research School of Social Sciences and the Research School of Humanities and the Arts – that cover the main disciplines to deliver leading research and degree programs.

» cass.anu.edu.au

ANU College of Asia & the Pacific

The ANU College of Asia and the Pacific (CAP) hosts the largest assembly of scholars dedicated to working on Asia and the Pacific in the English-speaking world. Organisationally the College comprises three large Schools - the School of Culture, History and Language (CHL); the Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs; and the Crawford School of Public Policy - and two Research Centres: the Regulatory Institutions Network (RegNet) and the Australian Centre on China in the World.

» asiapacific.anu.edu.au

ANU College of Science

The College consists of the Research Schools of Physics and Engineering, Earth Sciences, Chemistry, Astronomy and Astrophysics, and Biology, plus the Fenner School of Environment and Society, the Mathematical Sciences Institute, and the Australian Centre for the Public Awareness of Science. Academic staff within the ANU College of Science undertake world leading research and deliver research-led education on issues of global importance, supported by extensive international networks and world class facilities.

» cos.anu.edu.au

ANU College of Business & Economics

The ANU College of Business and Economics (CBE) seeks to advance knowledge through high quality teaching and research in the closely related areas of accounting, actuarial studies, business information systems, econometrics, economic history, economics, finance, international business, management,

marketing and statistics. It endeavours to do this through the provision of a range of undergraduate and graduate programs, and through its research, publications and contributions to the associated professions, commerce, industry and government.

» cbe.anu.edu.au

ANU College of Engineering & Computer Science

The ANU College of Engineering and Computer Science (CECS) comprises of the Research Schools of Engineering and Computer Science, and the 3Ai and Cyber Institutes. It offers undergraduate degrees in engineering, information technology and computer science along with masters and doctoral postgraduate programs. The College undertakes basic and applied research in information and communications technologies, materials and manufacturing, formal methods and logic, machine learning and vision, robotics and energy systems.

» cecs.anu.edu.au

ANU College of Law

The ANU College of Law (CoL) is Australia's national law school, committed to legal research and education at the highest level, and to striving for continuous improvement in the law for the benefit of national and international communities. The ANU Law School offers LLB Hons and Juris Doctor (JD) degrees, a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice through the School of Legal Practice, and postgraduate research and coursework degrees.

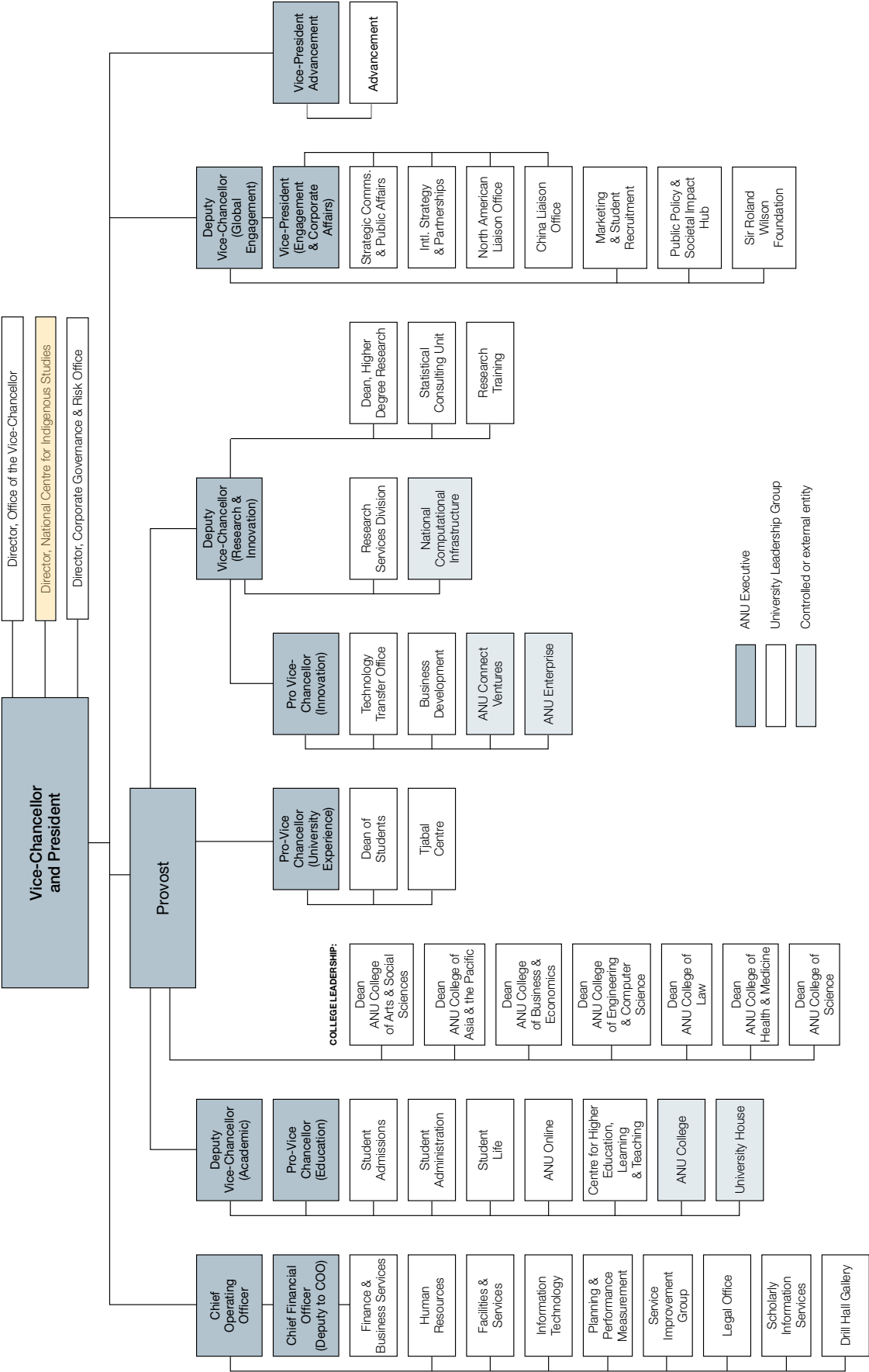
» law.anu.edu.au

ANU College of Health & Medicine

The ANU College of Health and Medicine comprises the ANU Medical School, the John Curtin School of Medical Research, the Research School of Psychology and the Research School of Population Health. These schools work together to deliver world-class research and education across the spectrum of medicine and health-related fields, working in partnership with the health sector at local, national and international levels.

» chm.anu.edu.au

ANU Executive Structure



ANU Executive
University Leadership Group
Controlled or external entity

THE NATIONAL CENTRE FOR INDIGENOUS STUDIES (NCIS)

The Responsibility of ANU to Indigenous Australia

The ANU Strategic Plan 2017-2021 articulates our responsibilities as the national University to Indigenous Australia. Implementing this vision is the responsibility of the Executive and all parts of the University as we seek to become the destination of choice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander intellectual leaders, and implement our Reconciliation Action Plan.

The Strategic Plan commits to renewal, building on our history of engagement, and seeking a new partnership with Indigenous Australia as part of our unique national responsibilities.

The University's Reconciliation Action Plan is central to delivery of our goals within the Strategic Plan. The University's vision for reconciliation is to be a place that facilitates learning that respects cultures and diversity: a place where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people come together to engage with their chosen discipline, contextualised by an understanding of our shared history. ANU will make an important contribution to reconciliation by furthering learning, research, services and public knowledge in relation to Indigenous issues.

ANU has a number of Centres and initiatives in a wide range of disciplines of relevance to Indigenous Australians.

These include:

- > The National Centre for Indigenous Studies
- > The Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research
- > Tjabal Indigenous Higher Education Centre
- > ANU Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Wellbeing Initiative
- > National Centre for Indigenous Genomics
- > Australian Centre for Indigenous History



The National Centre for Indigenous Studies

The National Centre for Indigenous Studies (NCIS) was established in 2005 under the leadership of Professor Mick Dodson AM. The Centre has developed a strong reputation as a leading centre in the field of Indigenous research, including through contributions to scholarly and public understandings of Australian Indigenous cultures and histories.

Over the last 13 years, the NCIS has engaged in a broad range of research, training, education and outreach activities with partners internal and external to the university. The Centre's many achievements include;

- > The annual NCIS graduate research retreat bringing together HDR scholars in Indigenous studies from across Australia as well as international scholars to collaborate on critical issues for Australia's Indigenous peoples.
- > Co-convening of the annual Reconciliation lecture, a high-profile event whose past speakers include Kevin Rudd, Patrick Dodson, Fred Chaney and Peter Yu.
- > High impact research projects such as the two-year evaluation for the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet that was notably influential in the government's decision to continue \$3m in funding for the Learning on Country program in the Northern Territory.

Following the retirement of Professor Dodson in March 2018, the Vice-Chancellor initiated a University-wide consultation proposing an increased remit for the NCIS in order to significantly enhance collaboration and partnerships in research, education and community engagement, with improved outcomes and impact, above and beyond what has been achieved to date. The University now seeks a Director to position the NCIS for the future, as a flagship, national centre for Indigenous activity, at both the national and international level, building on the outcomes of that consultative process.

ncis.anu.edu.au

THE NATIONAL CENTRE FOR INDIGENOUS STUDIES (NCIS)

ANU Indigenous Research, Education and Community Consultation Process and Outcomes

The university-wide consultation process over several months yielded the following themes as a focus for NCIS:

- > Building long-lasting relationships with Indigenous communities across Australia and engaging locally to inform research and policy at the national level
- > Ensuring a culturally safe ANU where Indigenous and non-Indigenous staff and students can collaborate across education, research and community initiatives
- > Creating an ecosystem of support and critical mass for Indigenous staff and students as well as education and training opportunities for non-Indigenous staff and students
- > Including Indigenous content and perspectives across the ANU curriculum
- > Committing to Indigenous academic recruitment across all levels and fields
- > Creating effective communication conduits to promote and facilitate Indigenous communities of practice across campus.

A proposed revised Charter for the NCIS received favourable feedback. Input and leadership from the new Director of NCIS will be important in shaping the final version of this new charter.

Proposed NCIS Charter

Vision

The NCIS will drive activity which will establish ANU as a leader in Indigenous research, education and community service and as the university of choice for students and staff in Indigenous studies nationally and internationally.

Core Functions – Research, Education and Community

NCIS will promote:

- > The inclusion and coordination of Indigenous research, education, and community outreach at the ANU, with our First Nations Peoples, across Australia, and beyond
- > Understanding and mutually beneficial relationships between academics, students and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia
- > Research in partnership with, and of benefit to, Indigenous communities addressing emerging issues of national significance to Indigenous Australia.
- > Education which incorporates appropriate Indigenous perspectives, content and knowledge across ANU
- > Understanding between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, policy-makers and researchers about our shared past, present and future, at the local, national and global level
- > A strong and special relationship with the Tjabal Indigenous Higher Education Centre.

The detailed outcomes of the consultation have been summarised into short, medium and long-term goals and will be provided on a confidential basis to short-listed candidates.

NCIS DIRECTOR – THE OPPORTUNITY AND THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

ANU is seeking an exceptional leader to shape the long-term vision of NCIS. Working with the Vice-Chancellor, the Director will develop and implement a collaborative model for NCIS that embeds Indigenous activity across the ANU.

This is a unique opportunity given the University's focus on Indigenous Australia under the ANU Strategic Plan 2017-2021 and the chance to shape the vision for NCIS following the recent University-wide consultation.

The position is a key leadership role, reporting directly to the Vice-Chancellor. The Director NCIS will be a member of the ANU Senior Management Group, participating in decision making at the highest level alongside the University Executive and College Deans. They will also work closely with the Research School Directors and Centre Directors across the University to ensure that Indigenous Education, Research and Community are embedded throughout ANU. A key relationship will be with the Director of the Tjabal Indigenous Higher Education Centre. The Director NCIS and the Director of the Tjabal Indigenous Higher Education Centre are the two ANU senior leadership roles driving the development and implementation of the University's Indigenous strategy and providing highly valued advice to the Vice-Chancellor and University Executive.

The Director NCIS will lead their own research programme aligned to the research strengths of ANU.

The ideal candidate will be an accomplished and senior Indigenous academic leader with relevant discipline and policy expertise as well as strong management experience. The Director will be responsible for the operational management, community outreach, research and educational leadership and strategic direction of NCIS. This will include building on local, national and international relationships in partnership with multiple stakeholders and research networks both within Australia and overseas.

Highly developed communication skills and the capacity to influence effectively should be complemented by the ability to engage across the ANU to encourage integrative research and teaching. The ability to build relationships while engendering a positive culture of collaboration will be critical.

The right candidate may have a non-traditional academic background.



ROLE STATEMENT

The Director, National Centre for Indigenous Studies (NCIS) provides academic and strategic leadership to the Centre, and is a leader for the ANU community in all matters relating to Indigenous Australia. The Director is responsible for leading the Centre towards achievement of its research, educational and community engagement goals, consistent with the ANU Strategic Plan 2017 – 2021.

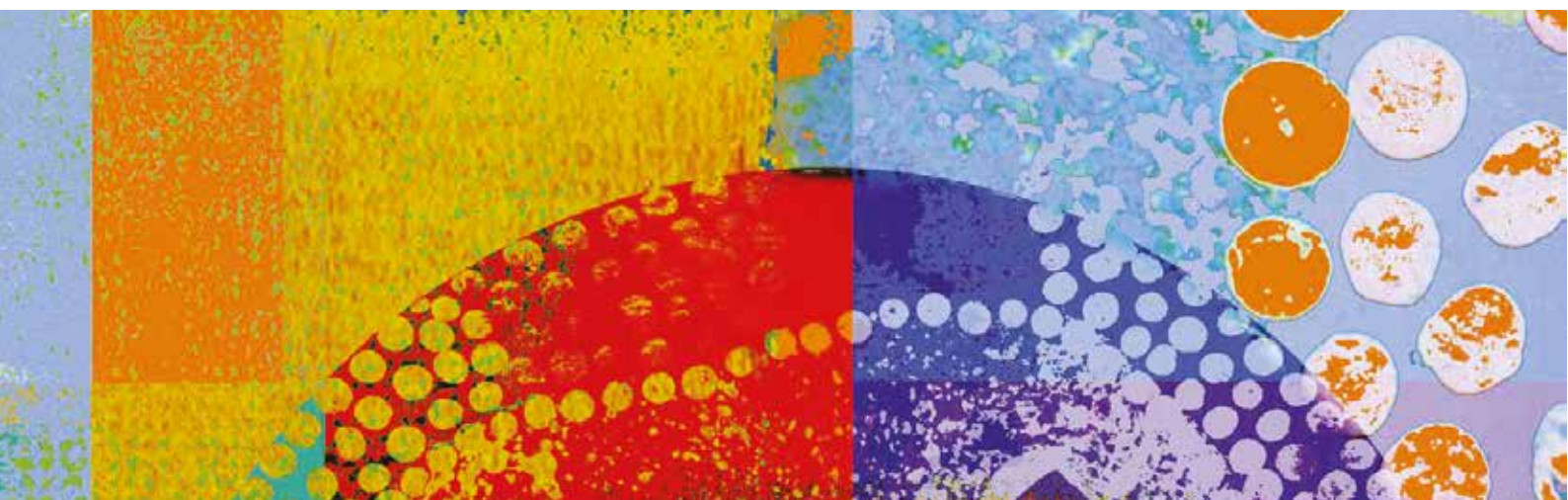
Position Dimension & Relationships:

Reporting to the Vice-Chancellor and President of The Australian National University, the Director, National Centre for Indigenous Studies works collaboratively with relevant Deans, and other Research School and Centre Directors, as appropriate, and the Office of the Vice-Chancellor to facilitate a cross-institutional and inter-disciplinary approach to Indigenous Studies.

Role Statement:

Responsible to the Vice-Chancellor and President, the Director, NCIS will have primary responsibility for:

- > Shaping the strategic direction of the Centre to support delivery of key initiatives listed in the ANU Strategic Plan 2017-2021, consistent with the NCIS Charter, ANU Reconciliation Action Plan, and other relevant strategies.
- > Managing the research performance of the Centre, including developing and encouraging innovative high-quality research activity, and the acquisition of grants.
- > Providing leadership that ensures the Centre achieves its objective of deepening Australia's understanding of Indigenous cultures and histories, and ensuring Indigenous knowledge, perspectives and experiences are respected, valued, accessed and incorporated into learning environments at The Australian National University and beyond.
- > Facilitating engagement and interaction with key internal and external stakeholders (including government, public service, academia, non-government organisations) on matters of relevance to Indigenous studies.
- > Implementing appropriate outreach strategies and taking actions to enhance the national and international profile of the Centre.
- > Representing the Centre and University both nationally and internationally.
- > Promoting the research activities of the Centre to the general public, potential benefactors, and to academics whose research would support the objectives of the Centre.
- > Interacting with the University Executive as a member of SMG to ensure alignment of the Centre's activities with the strategic focus of the University.



SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Evidence of an internationally recognised and outstanding academic research career in a relevant discipline or an equivalent level of recognised excellence from a non-traditional academic background.
2. Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of Indigenous culture and society, and an ability to communicate with Indigenous people.
3. Demonstrated experience in the provision of strategic planning and leadership within a high profile research and teaching environment.
4. Demonstrated experience in the management of human and financial resources and the development, implementation and management of plans and projects to achieve agreed outcomes.
5. Proven ability to effectively implement and manage operational plans to enhance and develop the Centre's national and international reputation and performance in education and research.
6. A demonstrated high-level of achievement in relation to the incorporation of EO principles into strategic planning and the capacity to accept devolved responsibility for achievement of equity and diversity strategies.

This is an identified position in accordance with the University's Identified Position Policy and only Indigenous Australians are eligible to apply.



WHY CHOOSE CANBERRA?

Being located in the heart of the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) – Canberra, allows excellent access to a number of key Indigenous national bodies such as the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) and other institutions that play a strong role in celebrating Indigenous culture such as the National Museum of Australia.

The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

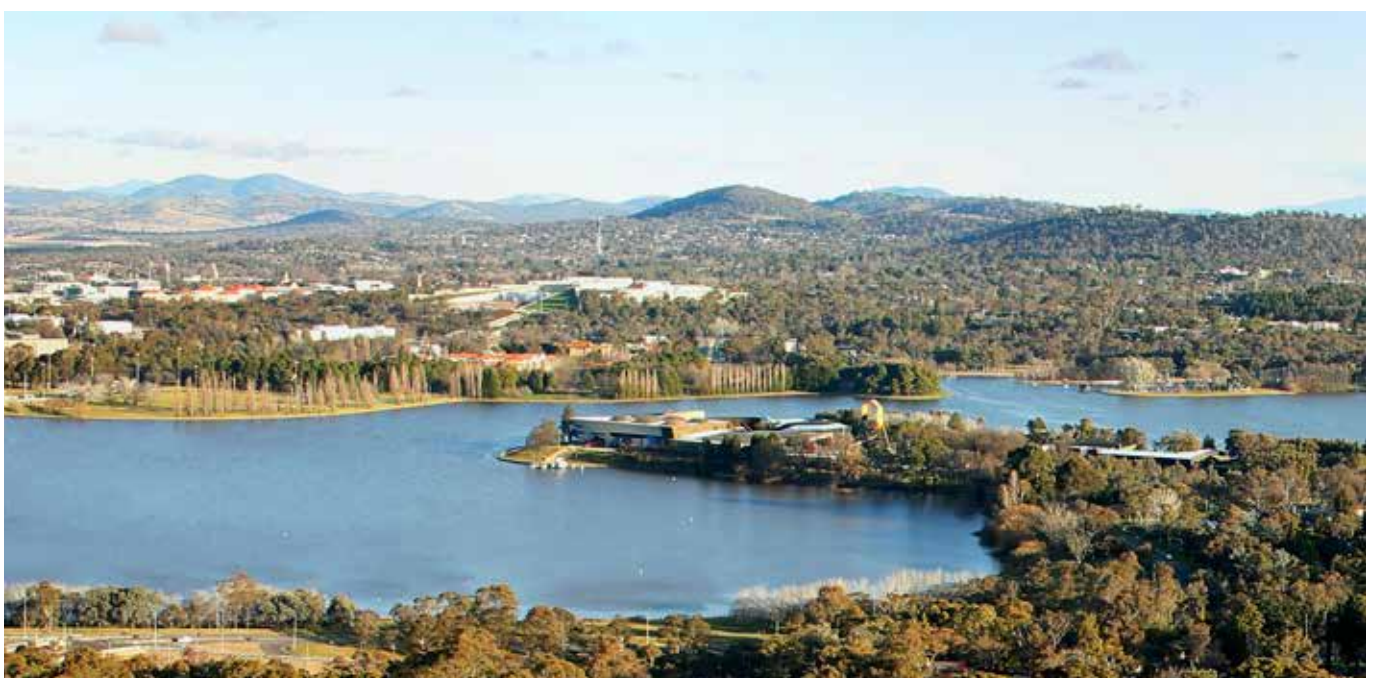
The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) is a world-renowned research, collections and publishing organisation. AIATSIS promotes knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, traditions, languages and stories, past and present.

aiatsis.gov.au

The National Museum of Australia

The National Museum of Australia brings to life the rich and diverse stories of Australia through compelling objects, ideas and events, with a focus on Indigenous histories and cultures, European settlement and our interaction with the environment.

nma.gov.au



WHY CHOOSE CANBERRA?

Canberra is designed to maximise the quality of life, built on a blueprint that connects people with community and nature, Canberra provides you the opportunity to create a unique work/life balance, wherever you choose to live.

About Canberra

Canberra is also a planned city – designed to maximise opportunities for work and play. As our Nation's Capital, big ideas emerge, circulate and grow here, thanks to unique links between leading thinkers in business, government, education and research. Our dynamic economy, highly educated workforce and an innovative business culture provide career and business opportunities unique to Canberra.

Our healthy appetite for outdoor pursuits is enhanced by the natural resources available: from sailing on Lake Burley Griffin, mountain biking at the world class Mount Stromlo facility or heading up to the Snowy Mountains for a day on the slopes. We are also home to most of Australia's major national cultural institutions, with whom the University has a close relationship, and a cultural calendar overflowing with international exhibitions, arts festivals and entertainment.



Education and Childcare

Canberra nurtures the pursuit of dreams from the ground up. Here families are provided with the supportive services, facilities and environments to raise happy, inspired and resilient children. Community is crucial for the support of families and Canberra has a number of ways to connect families with each other through playgroups, family events and activities.

Find out more about Canberra's excellent childcare, preschool and school system [here](#)

Where to Live

The architects who designed Canberra, Walter and Marion Burley Griffin, had a master plan to create a series of 'satellite cities' separated by nature reserves and connected with major roads. Today their vision lives on, with Canberra divided into seven distinct regions of residential suburbs, each serviced by a central business district.

The resulting benefits are that commuting times are short. Employment hubs are virtually on your doorstep and recreational facilities are within walking distance, regardless of where you live.

Find information on each district and the suburbs contained within them through the ['Explore Canberra'](#) map.

HOW TO APPLY

If you are interested in applying for this position, please send your CV and brief cover letter outlining your interest and experience to the Director of the Office of the Vice-Chancellor.

This is an identified position in accordance with the University's Identified Position Policy and only Indigenous Australians are eligible to apply.

Your application may require submission of:

- > Curriculum Vitae; plus
- > Details of your nominated referees; and
- > A letter of Expression of Interest.

Referees

Applicants must provide full contact details for three referees who have agreed to supply confidential references if requested by the University.

- > Candidates should state their relationship to the referees and why they have been nominated to speak on the candidate's behalf.
- > Referees will only be contacted after prior consultation with the candidate.
- > It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure referees are willing to provide reports when contacted.

Enquiries

Mr Christopher Price
Director, Office of the Vice-Chancellor

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Apply online

jobs.anu.edu.au
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