



RESEARCH FELLOW IN TERRESTRIAL VERTEBRATE ECOLOGY

Work Area:	School of Science Technology and Engineering
Classification:	Level B
Supervisor:	Dean, School of Science Technology and Engineering
Position No:	00006360
Incumbent:	Vacant

VISION

To become Australia's premier regional university.

MISSION

Enriching our regions, connecting with our communities and creating opportunities for all.

VALUES

At UniSC we will:

- Advocate for equitable access to education and knowledge
- Recognise and embrace diversity and inclusion
- Champion environmental sustainable principles and practices
- Commit to fair and ethical behaviour
- Respect our people, our communities, and their potential
- Be accountable to ourselves and each other
- Strive for excellence and innovation in all that we do

ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING

The School of Science, Technology and Engineering (SSTE) brings together all non-health related STEM disciplines to create a vibrant, multidisciplinary environment that fosters innovative and impactful research and educational outcomes. SSTE is located on three of UniSC's campuses at Moreton Bay, Sunshine Coast and Fraser Coast.

Our research has been independently rated as above or well-above world standard in Biology, Environmental Sciences, Agricultural and Veterinary Sciences, Materials Engineering, and Technology. We have research and funding agreements with local, national and international funding agencies, as well as a number of industries. We are extremely proud of our success in the recent Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2022 with UniSC placing 1st in Queensland and equal 31st in the world overall, with specific results of 5th for Clean Water and Sanitation, equal 18th for Life on Land, 19th for Life Below Water, and 22nd for Climate Action.

Our Science Discipline is a group of dedicated and talented researchers and teachers. Our research strengths include animal ecology, marine science and aquaculture, conservation and global change, natural products chemistry, biotechnology, and genetics. In the recent independent assessment of research quality (ERA 2018) the discipline scored above or well-above world standard in environmental sciences, biological sciences, and agriculture and veterinary sciences.



POSITION OVERVIEW

We are seeking a Research Fellow for research on the ecophysiology of terrestrial vertebrates, with a particular focus on bats and small mammals. Current projects include the response of insectivorous bats to fire and urbanisation and investigating the use of torpor in response to a variety of environmental variables by using both empirical data and models. This position will include supervision of current postgraduate students, analysing and publishing already available data and the potential to collect new data.

The applicant must have a PhD (or be close to receiving the degree) in ecophysiology or related subjects. Experience with field and laboratory research, data handling, statistical modelling and publishing peer-reviewed articles in ecophysiology, particularly with small mammals (including bats), will be considered an advantage. However, candidates from all disciplines of biology are encouraged to apply. It is important that the successful candidate should be motivated, interested in the topics and conduct high quality science. They should also enjoy interdisciplinary research and take keen interest in learning and working in teams.

PROFILE

At the University of the Sunshine Coast, a Research Fellow plays a major role in research by leading research projects and supervising candidates for higher degrees by research. Evidence of the level of research can be demonstrated through publications in quality journals of national/international standing, National Competitive Grants and leadership as a supervisor and mentor. They make significant connections with and impact on their discipline/field, which is recognised and acknowledged by peers nationally.

DUTIES:

1. Be an effective researcher and provide leadership in research and research training by:
 - Purposefully developing focused expertise in a relevant discipline/field;
 - Developing a research agenda and participating in a research team(s);
 - Framing research problems and researchable hypotheses;
 - Designing and conducting research projects and writing research reports;
 - Communicating research outcomes to both expert and lay audiences through publishing;
 - Successfully applying for research grants, particularly external competitive grants;
 - Successfully supervising candidates for higher degrees by research; and
 - Contributing to the development and maintenance of a positive academic environment that is conducive to high levels of engagement and standards of performance in research.
2. Maintain substantial involvement in professional/community service as a scholarly practice through which discipline knowledge and skills are applied to consequential problems in the world beyond the University. Service can be both in a remunerated capacity as consultancy, or without remuneration and can include:
 - Editing journals and being a member of review panels;
 - Creating opportunities for discussion of intellectual, social, economic and cultural issues of importance to the well-being of the community;
 - Making professional commentary on issues in the general media and within the wider community which involves bringing specialist expertise to bear on issues of general public interest in a range of fora; and
 - Undertaking major consulting projects through the University.



3. Provide service to the University by contributing to the definition and achievement of its goals and enable it to be a healthy organisation and can include:
 - Developing and maintaining strategic and productive partnerships, connections and relationships with people, groups and organisations at local, national and international levels; and
 - Communicating appropriately and effectively with students, other staff and individuals outside the University

Other duties within the range of skills normally associated with this classification, including those associated with an evolving research, teaching, learning and professional environment, as required. This may include participation in undergraduate teaching, supervision of Honours and HDR students, etc.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Applicants will be considered and ranked according to the quality and trajectory of their track record, relative to opportunity within the areas of research priority at USC. This information is supplied through the completion of the Application form.

1. Qualifications and Experience:
 - Completion of a relevant doctoral qualification and experience as a researcher
2. Quality and trajectory of the applicant's track record relative to opportunity:
 - Refereed publications and other acknowledged research outputs that are discipline specific. Applicants must clearly identify their contribution as distinct from other contributors and provide evidence of the quality of the output (impact factor, citations etc);
 - External funding (internal and external) awarded over the last five years. In the case of research fellowship applicants, internal grants will also be considered as part of the assessment process. Applicants must clearly identify their contribution as distinct from other contributors;
 - Esteem measures (key note addresses or invitations to present, prizes and awards, committee/board membership etc);
 - Technology transfer activities;
 - Outreach activities (including engagement with external partners); and
 - Supervision of research students. In the case of all applicants, supervision of higher degree research students and number of completions will also be taken into consideration.

Additionally, in accordance with UniSC's Staff Code of Conduct – Governing Policy, all staff are expected to display professional behaviour, communicate respectfully, and perform their duties responsibly.

A position description is not intended to limit the scope of a position but to highlight the key aspects of the position. The requirements of the position may be altered in order to meet the changing operational needs of UniSC.

UniSC is committed to creating a work and study environment that values diversity, facilitates equitable access and full participation.