

Position Description – Research Associate in Water Quality

Updated 13 March 2024

POSITION DETAILS	
College	College of Science and Engineering
Organisational Unit	Molecular Sciences & Technology
Supervisor	Dean, People and Resources (or Delegate)
Classification	Research (Academic) Level A
Employment Type	Fixed-term, full-time

POSITION SUMMARY
<p>The ARC Training Centre for Biofilm Research and Innovation is the leading Australian research and training centre tackling biofilm related challenges. Led by Flinders University, the Centre has a 5 year research and training program, bringing together 5 universities (3 Australian) and 10 industry partners across four Australian states to deliver innovative biofilm research in collaboration with industry partners in the maritime, water and other industries. The Training Centre will build on local and international expertise to mentor and train the next generation of interdisciplinary scientists and engineers to develop solutions to improve efficiency in the maritime and defence industries and in water quality monitoring, and health and safety issues related to biofilms.</p> <p>The Research Associate will undertake research under the direction of the Chief Investigator and under the guidance of the industry partner. In working with Chief Investigator and research team, the incumbent will assist in leading the design and execution of the research project.</p> <p>The primary aim of the project is the physical, microbial and chemical analysis of industrial water and biofilm samples and to investigate the interactions between different variables.</p> <p>The incumbent may assist in supervising and training students involved in the research Project, according to the University's policies, practices and standards.</p>

UNIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS AND VALUES
<p>All staff at Flinders are responsible for understanding their obligations and responsibilities as set out in the University's code of conduct and are expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate commitment to the University's values of Integrity, Courage, Innovation, Excellence and the underlying ethos of being Student Centred; • contribute to the efficient and effective functioning of the team or work unit in order to meet the University's objectives. This includes demonstrating appropriate and professional workplace behaviours, providing assistance to team members if required and undertaking other key responsibilities or activities as directed by one's supervisor; • promote and support an inclusive workplace culture which values diversity and embraces the principles of equal opportunity; • perform their responsibilities in a manner which reflects and responds to continuous improvement; and • familiarise themselves and comply with the University's Work Health and Safety, Injury Management and Equal Opportunity policies.

KEY POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

The Research Associate in Water quality is accountable for:

- Assisting in leading the Project by collaborating with the Project Research Team to successfully deliver project milestones and Key Performance Indicators.
- Contribute to the planning and execution of research by offering new ideas, reviewing relevant literature and other sources of information, actively participating in the production of data and attending seminars, meetings and conferences.
- Contributing to the coordinating, planning and executing the project tasks required to collaborate with industry partners.
- Contributing to ethical, high quality and innovative research and evaluation through activities such as scholarship, quality publication, external grant acquisition and presentations that aligns with the College areas of research strength and focus.
- Assisting principal supervisors with supervision of postgraduate and honours students.
- Establishing and maintaining collaborations within the University, and at State, national and international levels in order to improve research outputs, patents and publications.
- Some out of hours work (including weekends) as well as rural SA, interstate and overseas travel, may be required.
- Any other responsibilities in line with the level of the position as assigned by the Supervisor and/or the University.

A successful candidate is required to be:

- *Eligible to gain an Australian Defence Clearance and meet International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR);*
- *Ability to provide a National Police Clearance obtained within the last 3 months;*
- *And potentially attain, and maintain, an Australian Security clearance level NV1 as determined under the Australian Government Protective Security Policy Framework (PSPF).*

COVID-19 vaccination, in accordance with the Flinders University [COVID-19 Vaccination Policy \(2022\)](#) is a condition of employment with the University. Any offer of employment will be subject to the successful candidate presenting their COVID-19 Digital Certificate as evidence of vaccination or showing evidence of a valid medical exemption, where relevant.

KEY POSITION CAPABILITIES

- Completion of a PhD in Water quality, Microbiology or Chemistry or significant progress towards completion of a PhD in these areas.
- Ability to conduct microbial, chemical and physical water quality analysis, or the demonstrated ability to acquire this expertise in the short-term.
- Experience working with analysis of complex environmental samples and development of laboratory models
- Ability to organise and conduct field work, including water sampling.
- Demonstrated emerging research experience in terms of publications and presentations at a national and/or international level.
- Capability to deliver project targets on time.
- Well-developed interpersonal skills and the capacity to collaborate and engage with diverse stakeholders and industry partners.
- Demonstrated ability to critically review the literature in relevant fields.
- Ability to undertake collaborative research and establish and maintain effective relationships with university staff and industry partners.
- Demonstrated excellent oral and written communication skills in an academic environment.

Desired skills

- Laboratory experience, analytical capabilities, aseptic technique,