

Position Description – Professor in Sustainable Agriculture

Updated 23 October 2025

POSITION DETAILS

College	College of Science and Engineering
Organisational Unit	Physics & Molecular Sciences
Supervisor	Dean, People and Resources (or Delegate)
Classification	Academic Teaching & Research (Balanced) Level E
Employment Type	Continuing, full-time

POSITION SUMMARY

The Professor will, under broad supervision, provide academic leadership in research, teaching and community engagement in the broad area of sustainable agriculture. The incumbent should have a focus on soil science, biotechnology, crop improvement, vertical farming, integrated farming systems, agrivoltaics, precision agriculture, biosecurity, agroecology or another area of demonstrated alignment to existing Flinders University research strengths.

The position will provide outstanding leadership in the study of sustainability and agriculture. The incumbent will have a track record of grants, either Category 1 or others.

They will be able and willing to take a strong leadership role with Early Career Researchers and Middle Career Researchers. The Professor will advance the College in its reputation as a centre of excellence in education and research, both nationally and internationally, and advance the development of sustainable agriculture.

UNIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS AND VALUES

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:

- 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 Professor in Sustainable Agriculture is accountable for:

- Providing outstanding teaching using contemporary pedagogy, a range of delivery methods, and innovative delivery methods across a range of areas related to sustainable agriculture.

- Publishing high quality articles in sustainable agriculture and associated areas recognised as such nationally and internationally.
- Gaining external competitive research grants and contributing to growth in Flinders' research income.
- Supervising to completion Flinders research students including doctoral students in sustainable agriculture and growing the PhD cohort.
- Mentoring more junior academic colleagues in the College, especially academic staff in sustainable agriculture, including co-publishing, co-supervision and co-submission of external competitive grants.
- Contributing to or leading research on designated College and/or University themes.
- Providing administrative leadership as required including in the Physics and Molecular Science Teaching Program and its companion Research Section
- Contributing to administrative tasks as sought by the College leadership including playing an active role in the maintenance of academic standards and in the development of educational policy and curriculum within the sustainable agriculture domains.
- Providing leadership and expertise to foster collaborative links across the University, with industry/community and with other institutions as appropriate.
- Any other responsibilities in line with the level of the position as assigned by the Supervisor and/or the University.

A Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check (NCCHC) which is satisfactory to the University will be required by Flinders University before the successful applicant can commence in this position.

KEY POSITION CAPABILITIES

- Completion of a PhD, or equivalent qualification in an area relevant to sustainable agriculture.
- Demonstrated evidence of a distinguished and active track record of teaching expertise at tertiary level in sustainability and agriculture, including a leadership role in international delivery and /or collaboration
- Demonstrated evidence of innovation in teaching to support students in order to maximise their learning.
- Evidence of significant educational leadership relevant to teaching and learning in higher education and demonstrated experience leading innovation and inspiring excellence amongst colleagues.
- Significant experience in curriculum development and teaching methodology for topics and programs of study, including reviews and internal and external accreditation activities.
- Demonstrated experience with engaging and developing flexible methods to deliver teaching programs such as through e-learning platforms and other communications technologies
- A distinguished international reputation in research in an area of sustainable agriculture that aligns with the College's research strengths as evidenced by sustained high quality publications, invitations to deliver keynote addresses, and the attraction of several competitive external grants.
- Demonstrated excellence in the supervision of honours and research higher degree students.
- Significant contribution to the discipline and/or profession within a relevant external professional domain and within a wider community context at local, national and international level.
- A demonstrated strong track record of establishing effective research collaborations with external national and international partners.
- Demonstrated excellent oral and written communication skills and interpersonal skills, including the demonstrated evidence of the ability to develop, establish and maintain effective relationships with staff, students and industry.