Position Description – Research Associate in Computational Statistics

Updated 25 August 2025

POSITION DETAILS

College	**College of Science and Engineering**
Organisational Unit	**Data and Information Science**
Supervisor	**Dean, People and Resources (or Delegate)**
Classification	**Research (Academic) Level A**
Employment Type	**Fixed-term, part-time**

POSITION SUMMARY

The Research Associate will undertake research in computational statistics, focusing on modelling and analysis of biofouling processes in marine environments

This position involves developing and applying Bayesian statistical models to investigate and predict biofouling patterns. The project is a collaboration between Flinders University, the Defence Science and Technology Group, the University of South Australia, the Queensland University of Technology and the Australian Naval Infrastructure. It is funded by Defence Innovation Partnerships.

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.

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 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Research Associate in computational statistics 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.
- 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 interstate travel may be required.
- Any other responsibilities in line with the level of the position as assigned by the Supervisor and/or the University.

KEY POSITION CAPABILITIES

- Completion of a PhD in Statistics is desirable.
- Demonstrated ability using statistical programming languages such as R and Python, or equivalent.
- Ability to apply, adapt and/or develop analytical methods for the study of time series and Bayesian modelling.
- Demonstrated experience in statistical methodologies and applied/computational statistics.
- Demonstrated experience in analysing data.
- Demonstrated emerging research experience in terms of publications and presentations at a national and/or international level in a relevant field.
- Capacity to deliver project targets on time.
- Demonstrated 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 staff and industry.
- Demonstrated excellent oral and written communication skills in an academic environment.

THE 2025 AGENDA