

Position Description – Senior Lecturer in Plant Ecology

Updated 23 October 2025

POSITION DETAILS

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

POSITION SUMMARY

The Senior Lecturer will be a key member of the natural science academic staff with expertise in plant ecology. The incumbent will have research alignment in an area of invasive species biology, native species ecology, plant ecological genomics or an area aligned to existing Flinders University strength.

In addition to contributing to quality research endeavours, the incumbent will, under general supervision, provide leadership and contribute to the planning and delivery of topics, including development of teaching materials, delivery of lectures/tutorials or other innovative teaching and learning strategies, examinations and may be involved in placement education.

The incumbent may also be involved in teaching across other courses in the College or other Colleges, where appropriate.

The incumbent will be involved in strengthening existing partnerships or exploring new partnerships with external stakeholders that have potential for providing improved teaching, learning and/or research outcomes for the University. The incumbent will prioritise, coordinate, monitor workflow and provide informal day-to-day feedback to research support staff and casual academic teaching staff according to the University's policies, practices and standards.

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 Senior Lecturer in Plant Ecology is accountable for:

- Undertaking a lead role in the planning, delivery and evaluation of lectures, tutorials, laboratory-based material, curriculum development or other teaching strategies, including placement education for topics broadly across natural science with a particular focus on plant ecology.
- Undertaking topic coordination and course coordination.
- Making a significant contribution to ethical, high quality and innovative research in plant ecology through activities such as scholarship, quality publication, external grant acquisition, mentoring and developing early career researchers and presentation that aligns with the College areas of research strength and focus.
- Undertaking a lead role in inspiring and innovative teaching informed by approaches that enhance the student experience, such as e learning platforms.
- Supporting students with academic and/or other challenges impeding their academic progress.
- In a leadership capacity assisting in College internal and external quality assurance and accreditation processes.
- Actively supervising and mentoring students undertaking complex WIL, Honours and/or Research Higher Degree students.
- Leading, supervising and participating in high performing multi-disciplinary teams with an education and/or research focus and contributing to the development of a respectful, trusting and collaborative working environment.
- Building and maintaining strategic relationships and networks with a range of stakeholders including industry and professional associations and organisations, with an increasing national and/or international focus.
- Contributing at a leadership level to the integration and management of aspects of the academic and administrative life of the College.
- 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 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 plant ecology or related area.
- Research alignment in an area of invasive species biology, native species ecology, plant ecological genomics or an area aligned to existing Flinders University strength.
- Significant track record and demonstrated evidence of successful relevant teaching experience at tertiary level, including responsibility for topic coordination, course coordination and curriculum design.
- Demonstrated ability to develop and deliver a range of topics related plant ecology at an introductory and advanced level and to contribute broadly to other introductory natural science topics.
- Demonstrated experience and successful track record in supervision of honours and higher degree students to successful completion.
- Demonstrated evidence of a strong research track record (for career stage) in plant ecology that aligns with College research strengths and that is supported by evidence of sustained high-quality publications and attraction of significant external competitive grants.
- Demonstrated understanding of the nexus between teaching and learning, research and scholarship.

- Demonstrated experience providing leadership in the area of curriculum reviews and internal and external accreditation activities.
- Demonstrated excellent oral and written communication skills and interpersonal skills, including the demonstrated ability to establish effective relationships with staff, students and industry nationally and/or internationally.
- Demonstrated experience and innovation using e-learning platforms for teaching purposes.