



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Professor/Winthrop Professor, Faculty of Science Centenary Professor in Rural Development

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES – APRIL 2014



Appointment of

Professor/Winthrop Professor, Faculty of Science Centenary Professor in Rural Development

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Introduction

On behalf of The University of Western Australia, I welcome your interest in the Faculty of Science Centenary Professorship in Rural Development. This new flagship position is a Faculty of Science initiative to recognise 100 years of Science at UWA.

The University of Western Australia (UWA) is now ranked 4th in Australia and 91st in the world by the Academic Ranking of World Universities. Our success continues a trend that has seen us leap 36 places globally since 2008, and keeps us on target to reach our longer term goal of reaching the world top 50 by 2050. In Life and Agricultural Sciences we are ranked 1st in Australia and 26th in the world in the same ranking.



A dynamic and progressive institution, UWA is a member of the prestigious Group of Eight Partnership of leading Australian research intensive universities.

The School of Agricultural and Resource Economics and School of Earth and Environment are seeking to recruit a Centenary Professor in Rural Development to provide leadership and increased capacity for research in the area of development economics and development geography. The appointee will work collaboratively within UWA, especially with the Centre for Environmental Economics and Policy, the Centre for Regional Development and the UWA Institute of Agriculture (IOA), and strengthen links with external partners and industry groups.

We are seeking a person with energy, vision, strong leadership skills, a commitment to excellence in research and research training, and with expertise spanning economics and geography. Appointment as the Centenary Professor will require the capacity for broader leadership to achieve outstanding collegiality, excellence in research, teaching and/or policy development within UWA and the professional/industry sectors of the wider community.

I invite you to consider the exciting opportunities available for this new position in a University with a reputation for international excellence and the vitality and excitement of innovative research in a 21st century environment.

Professor Paul Johnson
Vice-Chancellor

The University of Western Australia

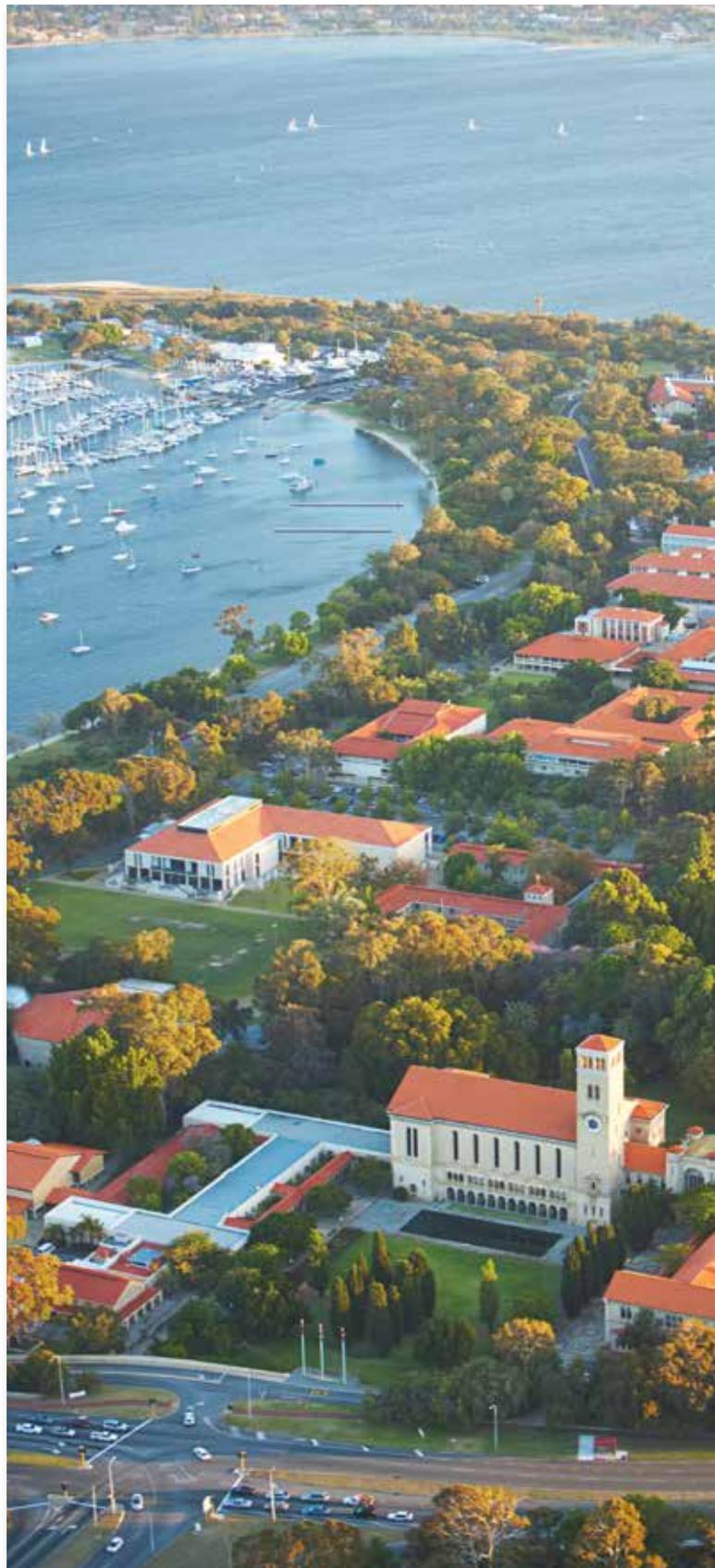
The University of Western Australia is a high-quality research-intensive university with a broad and balanced coverage of disciplines in the arts, science and major professions. It is Western Australia's oldest university, established in 1911, and currently has a student population of approximately 24,500.

The University has an international reputation for excellence and enterprise and is regarded as one of Australia's top research institutions. Its strong research culture sees it attract high levels of competitive research funding. At the same time the University places great emphasis on high quality in teaching and learning, and is committed to the development of innovative and responsive programs. It has focused on the teaching-research nexus, so that teaching and learning take place in an atmosphere of research scholarship.

The University's high quality teaching and research ensure it remains the university of preference for Western Australia's highest achieving school leavers, as well as attracting high-calibre undergraduate and postgraduate students from around the nation and overseas. The quality of the student population is high by national and international standards.

The University is recognised nationally and internationally for the quality of its academic staff and has strong strategic partnerships with industry, the professions and government. It operates in collaboration with other research intensive universities in Australia and around the world. The University of Western Australia graduates are highly competitive internationally, achieving success in higher study and in wide-ranging fields of employment. Many graduates have risen to prominence in leadership roles in industry, government, education and the professions, in Australia and internationally.

uwa.edu.au



Role, key responsibilities, selection criteria and conditions of employment

For the role of Centenary Professor/Winthrop Professor of Rural Development, the appointee will build and lead an internationally-recognised research program of externally-funded post-doctoral scientists and PhD research students.

The successful applicant will have expertise spanning economics and geography, with expertise in one or more of the following areas: rural development; agricultural development; environment-development interactions; development planning; local economic development. It is expected that the appointee will have experience in applied field-based research, and will have a track record of research and teaching in Africa and/or Asia. In addition to research leadership and research student supervision, the appointee will be expected to contribute to the leadership of a cross-faculty Master of Development Studies, and make contributions to existing Masters level programs in Agricultural Science, Environmental Management, Urban and Regional Planning.

Key responsibilities

- Lead an applied research program in rural development spanning economics and geography, with a focus on one of the following areas: rural development planning; agricultural development; environment-development interactions; local economic development.
- Contribute to the leadership in rural development research within the UWA Institute of Agriculture
- Contribute to the leadership of a new cross-faculty Master of Development Studies, including unit coordination, teaching and supervision.
- Where appropriate, contribute to other postgraduate programs in the Faculty, including in Agriculture, Environmental Management and Urban and Regional Planning.
- Attract and supervise PhD research students and post-doctoral researchers working on relevant projects in the area of rural development.
- Publish research program outcomes as peer-reviewed scientific journal articles in well-ranked international journals.

- Prepare proposals for competitive research programs, such as the Australian Research Council, and for funding agencies in the international development sector to support and expand the research program.

Selection Criteria

The successful candidate will demonstrate:

- Knowledge of disciplinary perspectives and approaches in development economics and development geography.
- Ability to independently design and manage a successful research program in terms of attracting external grants and supervision of research staff and PhD research students, in the area of rural development.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills, including demonstrated ability to publish papers in highly-ranked peer-reviewed international journals (track record is to be commensurate with Faculty of Science expectations for level D or E). The successful candidate would be expected to publish in outlets relevant to both development economics and development geography.
- Ability to lead a research team and to build effective working relationships with diverse stakeholders enabling operation of that team in a wider collaborative environment.
- Ability to excel in coursework teaching and curriculum design in rural development, particularly at the MSc level.
- A PhD and appropriate level of research experience in economics and geography.

For appointment at Level E, demonstrated capacity for broader leadership to achieve outstanding collegiality, excellence in research, teaching and/or policy development within the institution and the professional/program delivery sectors.





Conditions of employment

The appointment will be tenurable and subject to annual performance reviews.

Salary range: Level D: \$128,589 – \$141,667 pa or Level E: \$165,644 pa, and will include:

- Employer contribution to superannuation of 17%;
- Recreation leave of 20 days pa;
- Long service leave;
- Eligibility for sabbatical leave.

In addition, reasonable assistance will be provided for relocation expenses including airfares for the appointee and dependants.

Faculty of Science

The Faculty of Science was one of the three founding Faculties at the University, commencing teaching in 1913. The Faculty has since grown significantly and now maintains teaching and research specialisms through its nine Schools:

- Agricultural and Resource Economics;
- Anatomy, Physiology and Human Biology;
- Animal Biology;
- Chemistry and Biochemistry;
- Earth and Environment;
- Physics;
- Plant Biology;
- Psychology;
- Sport Science, Exercise and Health.

The Faculty has more than 5000 students from across Australia and overseas and more than 800 staff members. The Faculty is research-focused and includes amongst its staff world-leading researchers and winners of numerous national and international science awards. UWA is rated above world standard in 38 fields of research, and 79 per cent of these are in science fields.

The Faculty and the unique natural environment of Western Australia provide excellent opportunities for research. The Faculty of Science draws on the interdisciplinary strengths of our Schools, affiliated Institutes and Centres to bring about change for the world and humanity in five key areas:

- Feeding the world;
- Preventing, diagnosing and treating disease;
- Furthering human knowledge and serving humanity;
- Harnessing resources and energy for a sustainable future;
- Restoring and maintaining balance in our natural environment.

The Faculty of Science and its member Schools and Research Centres, together with the UWA Institute of Agriculture, and the UWA Ocenas Institute, undertakes research, research training, coursework education, and communication in agriculture and natural resource management sciences. The excellence of UWA's agriculture research and teaching is internationally recognised, as evidenced by the impact of scientific publications and the placement of graduates in industry and scientific research organisations.

School of Agricultural and Resource Economics

The School of Agricultural and Resource Economics has a strong research performance. Included within the School is the Centre for Environmental Economics and Policy, which plays a key role in linking the School to policy makers, managers and a range of external collaborators. The School has strong links with excellent researchers around Australia and internationally. The research culture of the School emphasises interdisciplinary research and collaboration. The approach taken to economics is to combine high-quality innovative research with pragmatic applied methods. As well as being highly respected academically, the School has a notable strength in delivering highly valued real-world impacts. Most staff members are affiliated with important national research centres. A diverse range of research topics are addressed from an applied economics perspective, including farming systems economics, adoption of rural innovations, agricultural policy, risk, agricultural marketing and supply chains, environmental management, environmental policy, water resource management, fire management, and adaptation to climate change. Recent research in a development context includes work on the economics of conservation agriculture, weed management, agroforestry, rangelands, forest management, reservoir management, biodiversity, agricultural productivity and efficiency, and food security.





School of Earth and Environment

The School of Earth and Environment is one of the largest Schools in the University and incorporates teaching and research activities concentrated in the areas of Geography, Geosciences, Environmental Science and Soil Science. The School has a vibrant program of teaching and research in human geography, with around a dozen academic staff working in a diverse range of areas including economic development, social demography, urban policy, social geography and environmental management. One of the strengths of this group is its close links with the biophysical sciences within the School to examine issues such as climate change, environmental degradation and conservation, land use change, and coastal issues.

The School is also host to two major research centres related to this position: the Centre for Regional Development and the Planning and Transport Research Centre, both of which have extensive research and teaching activities spanning South East Asia, Central Asia and Africa. The School also has close ties with the International Centre for Mining for Development (IM4DC), and in collaboration runs professional education programs on Mining and Regional Development, including an offshore program in Ghana.

Faculty of Science:
www.science.uwa.edu.au

School of Agricultural and Resource Economics:
www.are.uwa.edu.au

School of Earth and Environment:
www.see.uwa.edu.au

Centre for Environmental Economics and Policy:
www.ceep.uwa.edu.au

Centre for Regional Development:
www.crd.uwa.edu.au

The UWA Institute of Agriculture:
www.ioa.uwa.edu.au



Western Australia and Perth

The resource-rich State of Western Australia is the economic powerhouse of Australia. Western Australia is the principal Australian supplier of natural resources and energy to international partners, including China, India, Japan, South Korea and much of South-East Asia. Western Australia's diverse inventory of minerals and energy, as well as its agricultural and fisheries resources, account for 25 per cent of the nation's exports and place the State at the heart of Australian economic growth and transformation.

Western Australia and its capital Perth occupy the same time zone as 60 per cent of the world's population and the nations that promise the greatest economic growth of the 21st century. Western Australia is also Australia's largest state, covering some 2.5 million square kilometres and 12,500 kilometres of coastline, including some of the most ancient landscapes in the world. The State's population is matching the rapid growth of the economy and is over two million.

Perth is a cosmopolitan city, with wide ethnic and cultural diversity. The city centre is on the Swan River 12 kilometres from the Indian Ocean port of Fremantle.

The city enjoys a Mediterranean climate, with more hours of sunshine than any other capital city in Australia. Summers are hot and dry and the winters mild and wet. Perth's world-famous beaches and rivers, extensive parklands and variety of restaurants and cafes provide a superb living environment. For more information see: tourism.wa.gov.au

Perth is well served with art galleries, theatres and cinemas and is home to the WA Symphony Orchestra, the WA Ballet and the WA Opera. The cultural highlight of the year is the Perth International Arts Festival, founded and owned by The University of Western Australia – uwa.edu.au/perthfestival

Western Australia's five universities and wide variety of public and private schools, vocational institutions and English language colleges provide quality assured education with flexible study pathways and state-of-the-art facilities. Perth continues to build its reputation as a destination for international students seeking a quality education – studypertth.com.au

Applications

Thank you for your interest. If you wish to proceed, the following information will assist you with your application. Refer also to the selection criteria on page 4.

The position description is available at:
jobs.uwa.edu.au/executive

There are no specific application forms to complete. Your application must include the following:

- A covering letter or statement that clearly demonstrates the extent to which you satisfy each of the selection criteria and the requirements of the position;
- A curriculum vitae providing personal details, qualifications, grants, graduate student supervision, publications and work history;
- Applicants with teaching experience are requested to submit a teaching portfolio;
- The names and contact details, including email addresses, of three referees who may be contacted for a confidential report. Please note that your permission will be sought before referees are contacted.

Please also note: If you are the successful candidate for this position and you are not an Australian or New Zealand citizen, or a permanent resident of Australia, you will be required to obtain an entry visa to work here. The University of Western Australia will sponsor you for employment in Australia under the Employer Nomination Scheme.

Lodging your application

ELECTRONICALLY – Send your application as an email attachment to: toni.pilgrim@uwa.edu.au

Please include in the subject line:

Centenary Professor in Rural Development

BY MAIL – Please address your application package as follows:

Ms Toni Pilgrim
Human Resources M350
The University of Western Australia
35 Stirling Highway
Crawley 6009
Western Australia

Closing date

9th May 2014

Enquiries and further information

Enquiries contacts:

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The University expects to short-list in late May 2014. Selection activities and formal interviews will take place in Perth on 6-8 August 2014 inclusive.



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