

POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION INFORMATION

POSITION TITLE:	Research Fellow
WORK AREA POSITION CODE:	<i>(To be allocated by Human Resources)</i>
FUNCTIONAL UNIT:	Institute for Religion and Critical Inquiry
ORGANISATIONAL UNIT:	Faculty of Theology and Philosophy
CAMPUS:	McAuley at Banyo campus, Brisbane
NOMINATED SUPERVISOR (TITLE):	Director of the Centre for Early Christian Studies and Project Leader
CURRENT CLASSIFICATION:	Academic Level B
EMPLOYMENT TYPE	Fixed term (4 years), Full-time
	A period of probation may be attached to this position.
REMUNERATION & BENEFITS:	A range of generous conditions of employment and entitlements are provided to staff some of these include: generous leave conditions; flexible working conditions; comprehensive staff development programs; salary packaging benefits as a rebatable employer; reward and recognition programs.
SUPERANNUATION:	The University will contribute an amount equivalent to 9.5% or 17% of your gross annual salary to superannuation dependent on salary level, length of appointment or age.
DATE DEVELOPED/ REVIEWED:	November 2014

Background

Mission Statement:

Within the Catholic intellectual tradition and acting in Truth and Love, Australian Catholic University is committed to the pursuit of knowledge, the dignity of the human person and the common good.

Australian Catholic University (ACU) welcomes students and staff of all beliefs. It is committed to a strong Catholic ethos and seeks to foster and promote teaching and learning, research and scholarship, and community engagement in the Christian tradition.

The University shares with universities worldwide a commitment to quality in teaching, research and service. It aspires to be a community characterised by free enquiry and academic integrity.

The University chooses to focus on areas of teaching and research that are closely connected with its particular character as a University that is, Catholic, public and national. The focus areas are Theology and Philosophy, Health, Education and, the Common Good and Social Justice.

ACU has over 1,800 staff supporting more than 30,000 students across seven campuses – Adelaide, Ballarat, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, North Sydney and Strathfield.

The structure to support this complex and national University consists of:

- Provost
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor Students, Learning and Teaching
- Chief Operating Officer

Each portfolio consists of a number of Schools, Directorates or Institutes;

- Five Associate-Vice-Chancellors or Campus Deans that focus on the University's local presence and development of the University at the local 'campus' level; and
- A Directorate of Identity and Mission that drives both the Identity and the [Mission](#) of the University and includes a number of Institutes and Directorates.

The University is committed to performance excellence and offers an environment where staff are valued and rewarded. Further information about a career with ACU is available at www.acu.edu.au.

ABOUT THE FACULTY OF THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY

The Faculty of Theology and Philosophy came into existence from 1 January 2009 and is one of four faculties at ACU. The Faculty is comprised of two national schools, the School of Theology and the School of Philosophy, as well as the Institute for Religion and Critical Inquiry.

The Faculty offers undergraduate and postgraduate courses and higher degree research studies across six campuses and is a leader in the flexible delivery of teaching. The Faculty, and in particular Theology, has a strong research output, achieving an Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) score of 4 (above world average) in the 2010 report.

The Faculty has 66 academic staff, 21 professional staff and 58 honorary appointments.

THE INSTITUTE FOR RELIGION AND CRITICAL INQUIRY

The Institute, which is thoroughly Catholic in spirit, is first and foremost a research organization, which sets its sights on the highest standards of intellectual work, seeking creativity, collaboration and originality as well as rigour and thoroughness in its scholarship at an international level.

The institute comprises a team of accomplished scholars whose research agenda includes ongoing programs in Biblical Studies and Early Christianity; Catholic Thought and Practice, including Inter-religious Dialogue; Moral Philosophy and Applied Ethics; and Philosophy and Phenomenology of Religion.

POSITION PURPOSE

The Research Fellow will conduct research relating to the project *Religious Conflict in Early Christianity*. Professor Pauline Allen, FAHA, leads the overall project and other participants include Dr Bronwen Neil, FAHA. The research fellow will undertake research on any aspect of religious conflict in Late Antiquity (from the fourth to seventh centuries CE) as part of the project.

The Research Fellow will have experience in research and scholarly activities and be expected to contribute to enhancing the profile of Early Christianity research at Australian Catholic University.

In addition the fellow will contribute to the research life of the Institute through participation in and presentation of seminars, attending conferences to disseminate the outcomes of the project, and to assist in other research related activities where possible e.g. co-supervision of research students.

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibilities of the position include:

1. Conduct high level research in the area of Early Christianity, especially in Late Antiquity;
2. Produce high level publications as sole author and in collaboration with team members, to be published in high quality peer reviewed outlets;
3. Collaborate with the research team in the production of multi-authored works through assisting with the editing of the contributions of others, as needed;
4. Prepare and submit research grant applications and actively identify and seek funding from external bodies in consultation with Professor Allen and the Institute Director;
5. Contribute to the research supervision of higher degree research students either as a principal or co-supervisor, depending on experience;
6. Actively contribute to the intellectual life of the Institute, the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy, and the University;

7. Provide progress reports of their research work, including grants awarded, grants applied for and their status, details of student supervision or co-supervision and other teaching-related activities, conference presentations and publications; and details of the intended program for the following year as required. Provide a final report covering all aspects of the work undertaken prior to the end of their appointment
8. Other duties as required appropriate to the level of appointment.

SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE (Selection Criteria)

Essential

1. Successful completion of a PhD or equivalent in Classics, Early Christian studies, or studies in Late Antiquity or the Early Middle Ages, with a specialisation in epistolography and/or letter collections within the preceding eight (8) years.
2. Competency in Latin and/or Greek, and modern languages.
3. Demonstrated research achievement as evidenced by high quality publications
4. Emerging strong international standing and research reputation.
5. An ability to work effectively as part of a research team and independently.
6. A high level of oral and written communication skills in English.
7. Awareness of the University's Mission and Catholic ethos and demonstrate an understanding of how this role serves the Mission.
8. Commitment to cultural diversity and ethical practice principles, and demonstrate knowledge of equal employment opportunity and workplace health and safety, appropriate to the level of the appointment.

Desirable

1. Working knowledge of other ancient languages (e.g. Syriac, Coptic, Armenian, Georgian).
2. Success in competitive peer-reviewed grants and/or demonstrated ability to apply for external funding.
3. Experience in supervision or co-supervision of Honours and/or Master's research projects.