Kimberley Foundation
Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES – MAY 2012

ACHIEVE INTERNATIONAL EXCELLENCE
Appointment of

Kimberley Foundation
Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art

Archaeology, School of Social and Cultural Studies
Centre for Rock Art Research and Management

Contents

Introduction | 02

The University of Western Australia | 03

Role, key responsibilities, selection criteria and conditions of employment | 04

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences | 06

Centre for Rock Art Research and Management | 07

Western Australia and Perth | 08

Applications | 09
The Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art was established with a gift from the Ian Potter Foundation to the Melbourne-based not-for-profit organisation, the Kimberley Foundation of Australia (KFA). The WA Premier, Colin Barnett, also pledged funding from the State Government to the study of Kimberley rock art.

The Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art will advance the understanding of the Indigenous cultural heritage of Western Australia’s far north. The Chair will support long term research into the nature and context of the Kimberley’s deep past. It will also significantly advance the global knowledge and recognition of the rock art. Researchers, working in partnership with traditional custodians, will study and record rock art and also educate students in the broader community about the value of the Kimberley’s rich cultural heritage.

The Chair will join the Centre for Rock Art Research and Management located within the School of Social and Cultural Studies. The Centre promotes and advances understanding of the duration, nature and context of the Indigenous cultural heritage in the Kimberley.

The establishment of a Chair in Kimberley Rock Art is a remarkable achievement and a tremendous opportunity to expand studies in palaeoecology, palynology, archaeology, paleolinguistics and geochronology of the Kimberley region.

Research in the Kimberley to increase our knowledge of the earliest Australian people, their art and cultures and their relationship with a changing environment is critical to understanding the rock art and its national and international significance.

I invite you to consider the exciting opportunities available for the Kimberley Foundation Ian Potter Chair in Rock Art.

Professor Paul Johnson
Vice-Chancellor
The University of Western Australia – a member of Australia’s Group of Eight – combines the traditions of the world’s old and great universities with the vitality and excitement of innovative study and research in the 21st century. It is recognised internationally as an excellent teaching and research university, and a leading intellectual and creative resource to the community it serves.

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 23,000.

The University has acquired an international reputation for excellence and enterprise and is regarded as one of Australia’s best 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 ensures 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 extremely 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.
Role, key responsibilities, selection criteria and conditions of employment

Role

The University is seeking to appoint a senior scholar to lead and develop rock art research in the Kimberley region of Western Australia. The position is primarily a research role, responsible for developing integrated research programs, and for ensuring appropriate participation and collaboration with Traditional Owners. The principal focus of this research should advance understanding of the duration, nature and context of Indigenous cultural heritage in the Kimberley, in order to contextualise and progress the study of the region’s rock art. The Chair will also be responsible for developing research training in rock art and related disciplinary fields, and for ensuring that the results of this work are disseminated to the wider community.

Key responsibilities

- Developing an integrated research program at the Centre for Rock Art Research and Management on Kimberley rock art;
- Applying for external funds to support such a research program;
- Establishing best-practice collaborations with indigenous groups who own and manage the Indigenous sites and materials in the Kimberley;
- Research training of postgraduate students in Kimberley rock art and related fields;
- Disseminating the research results in both academic and non academic arenas;
- Contributing to the undergraduate teaching program at UWA in areas related to Kimberley rock art;
- Developing national and international relationships with other institutions and industry partners to further the research of the Centre for Rock Art Research and Management;
- Maintaining a collaborative working relationship with key partners such as the Kimberley Foundation Australia;
- Other duties as directed.
Selection criteria

Qualifications
- PhD in a discipline relevant to rock art research.

Research and Scholarship
Applicants will need to demonstrate an outstanding ability and/or record in relation to each of the following:
- Rock art research and management;
- Communication of research results to experts and wider communities;
- Success in attracting research resources;
- Fostering collaborative research programs within the university and with other institutions nationally and internationally to achieve productive research outcomes;
- Supervision of postgraduate students;
- Creation of an independent research program in the field of Kimberley rock art.

Teaching
Applicants should have demonstrable capacity to:
- Maintain academic standards and to develop educational policy and curriculum areas within rock art studies;
- Supervise and participate in undergraduate units relevant to Kimberley rock art.

Other
- Candidates who are fluent in at least one language other than English would be highly regarded.

Conditions of employment

The appointment is tenurable, and will be subject to annual performance reviews. An attractive and flexibly constructed remuneration package will be negotiated and will include:
- Professorial Level E salary;
- Employer contribution to superannuation of 17% (standard employee contribution is 7%);
- Recreation leave of 20 working days per annum;
- Long service leave;
- Relocation assistance including airfares.
Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Arts was one of three founding Faculties at the University, commencing teaching in 1913. The Faculty has since grown significantly and now maintains teaching and research specialties in the areas of:

- Anthropology and Sociology
- Archaeology
- Asian Studies
- Classics and Ancient History
- Communication Studies
- English and Cultural Studies
- European Languages and Studies
- History
- Linguistics
- Medieval and Early Modern Studies
- Music
- Philosophy
- Political Science and International Relations
- Gender Studies

Courses

The general Bachelor of Arts degree allows students to specialise in one or two areas (known as majors), while encouraging them to explore additional interests through the flexibility of the degree. Our majors include fields as diverse as archaeology, linguistics, political science and international relations.

Our degrees can be combined with Commerce, Economics, Education, Engineering, Law and Science.

The Faculty has a strong postgraduate research program, with over 300 students pursuing research Masters and PhD degrees. Both the University and Faculty provide extensive support for postgraduate students, including scholarships for both domestic and international students, travel and conference grants, and research funding.

In addition, we offer postgraduate coursework programs in areas as diverse as International Journalism, Medieval and Early Modern Studies. Professional Archaeology will be offered from 2013.

Research

The Faculty is home to Research Centres in the areas of anthropology, archaeology, history, literature and Muslim studies. We are also home to the ARC Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions; and the Confucius Institute, the first such Institute in Australia with the aim of enhancing Australia-Chinese relations.

The publication record of our staff is exemplary, with over 200 refereed journal articles, book chapters, books and conference publications produced annually.
About the Centre

The Centre for Rock Art Research and Management (CRARM) aspires to be a centre of excellence for integrated and collaborative research into Australian rock art, with an emphasis on Western Australia. It also aspires to be a leader in rock art conservation and management by research driven advocacy for its priceless heritage values.

Rock art informs many other past and present Indigenous artistic practices, and cannot be studied in isolation. CRARM seeks to bring together multidisciplinary researchers (archaeologists, chemists, fine arts specialists, Indigenous artists, and historians) and Indigenous communities to create a more holistic understanding and awareness of the cultural significance of Indigenous rock art. By examining various contexts and aspects associated with rock-art, from both Indigenous and non-Indigenous perspectives, researchers can use Indigenous visual heritage to understand more about its role in the lives of Indigenous Australians.

In accordance with The University of Western Australia’s Strategic Direction we will advance the Research Priority Area of Indigenous knowledge and the emerging priority of Social Policy, Public Policy, and International Studies. To sustain itself the Centre will continue to seek sources of external funding.

Core Values

The Centre’s core values are:

- **Collaboration** with Indigenous communities in a culturally respectful manner;
- **Research** of rock art throughout Australia;
- **Public Dissemination** of rock art’s values to the academic and broader community; and
- **Protection** of rock art throughout Australia.

Research

Our main aim is to engage in collaborative research projects aimed at furthering our understanding of rock art’s role in the development of Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultural histories.

In association with Indigenous communities, we develop strategies to promote research into the conservation and management of Australia’s rock art heritage. These strategies include such activities as convening academic symposiums and conferences focusing on developments in the discipline.

We also encourage young researchers, especially Indigenous scholars, by creating opportunities for postdoctoral study.

Recording

The Centre works as partners with Indigenous communities to systematically document rock art in a culturally sensitive and ethical manner.

In doing this, we continually develop and refine new and existing recording methods using digital technologies to create an accurate and long-lasting record.

Education and Training

As well as training future researchers by providing opportunities for postgraduate study, including postgraduate scholarships, we aim to improve the general awareness and appreciation of rock art’s immense heritage values.

We also work with Indigenous communities to provide training for undergraduate students, Indigenous Ranger groups, and other relevant Indigenous organisations in proper rock art recording and analytical techniques.

Publication

As part of our work, we produce high-quality research publications in internationally recognised outlets and other media for dissemination to both academic and non-academic audiences.

In doing this, we collaborate with Indigenous communities and digital media experts to create and design new and innovative ways to present and preserve rock art heritage.

We are developing a high-quality peer-reviewed monograph series devoted to Australian and international rock art research.

Community Outreach

Although much of our work is academically orientated, it is also important for the Centre to engage with the broader Australian community to share the cultural significance of Australia’s rock art heritage.

To achieve this, we work in partnership with Indigenous and Industry groups in commercial ventures involving Australian rock art.
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.

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 – pertheducationcity.com.au
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 5.

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

• A statement that clearly demonstrates the extent to which you satisfy each of the selection criteria;
• A curriculum vitae that provides your personal details, qualifications and work history;
• A list of any publications;
• The names, email, mailing addresses and the telephone contact details of three referees who can 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: Chair in Rock Art, Ref 4013

BY MAIL – Please address your application package as follows:
Ms Toni Pilgrim (Ref 4013)
Human Resources M350
The University of Western Australia
35 Stirling Highway
Crawley 6009
Western Australia

Closing date

The closing date for applications is Friday, 29 June 2012

Enquiries and further information

If you wish to discuss the position in confidence, please contact:

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