Australian National University

Position Description

College/Division:	ANU College of Law Governance and Policy
Faculty/School/Centre:	Crawford School of Public Policy
Department/Unit:	Pacific Security College
Position Title:	Academic Convener
Classification:	Academic Level C
Position No:	26331
Responsible to:	Director
Number of positions that report to this role:	NIL
Delegation(s) Assigned:	D4

PURPOSE STATEMENT:

The Pacific Security College (the College) is an innovative partnership between ANU and the Australian Government. Established to respond to the priorities articulated in the Pacific Islands Forum's Boe Declaration on Regional Security and the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, the College serves as a hub for collaboration, knowledge exchange and capacity building across the region.

The College works with Pacific governments, regional organisations, civil society and academic partners to strengthen collective approaches to security challenges. Its mandate spans the broad concept of security endorsed by Pacific leaders, including climate change, human security, environmental and resource security, transnational crime, cybersecurity and geostrategic dynamics. Through research, training and policy engagement, the College fosters regional collaboration and supports national governments in strengthening their security institutions and strategies.

The Academic Convener provides academic leadership across College's research, education and policy engagement activities. The role guides the development and quality of the College's academic programs, supports collaboration among researchers and Pacific partners and helps ensure the College's work is relevant, rigorous and responsive to regional priorities. The position also contributes to strategic planning, stakeholder engagement and the translation of research into practical policy advice and capacity-building initiatives.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITY AREAS:

Position Dimension & Relationships:

The Academic Convener works under the broad direction of the Director and provides academic leadership across the College's research, education and policy engagement activities. The position works closely with the Director and senior leadership team to shape the College's academic priorities, strengthen the quality and impact of its programs and support the delivery of its strategic objectives.

The Academic Convener provides guidance and coordination to academic staff, fellows and research partners and promotes collaboration across research, teaching, professional development and policy engagement. The position also contributes to the development of research programs, publications, funding proposals and partnerships.

The Academic Convener works closely with College staff, ANU academic units, DFAT, Pacific governments, regional organisations, universities, research institutions and other partners. The role represents the College in academic and policy forums and helps strengthen its reputation, networks and research profile across Australia and the Pacific.

Role Statement:

The Academic Convener will be supervised by the Director and will be expected to ensure an excellent curriculum for the College's postgraduate subject(s), short courses and executive leadership program; manage the College's credentialling process at ANU and, over time, with Pacific universities; build links and collaboration with Pacific universities and academics; conduct high-quality research and engagement in

relation to one of the areas of the Pacific Islands Forum's Boe Declaration; publish in peer-reviewed journals and in venues oriented to a broader policy audience; and contribute to education activities and stakeholder engagement as appropriate.

In their role as Academic Convener, the appointee will be expected to:

- Ensure an excellent curriculum for the College's courses and programs, including through the initiation, development and presentation of course material.
- Manage the ANU approvals process for the College's courses and, over time, seek to develop joint joint programs with Pacific tertiary institutions
- Harvest research from the College's courses where possible.
- Conduct public facing, high-quality, collaborative and policy-relevant research that advances understanding of Pacific security.
- Publish in both academic and applied policy outlets, including policy papers, blogs podcasts and peer-reviewed journals.
- Support the College's engagement strategy, working to build and maintain relationships with Pacifici universities, academics and other stakeholders.
- Contribute to the design, review, and delivery of the College's short courses, executive education, postgraduate subject and microcredentials on Pacific security.
- Organise and contribute to regional dialogues, workshops and conferences, ensuring meaningful engagement and policy relevance.
- Work collaboratively and sensitively with Pacific governments on their national security strategies and support them with advice and technical assistance.
- Maintain a wide network of stakeholders across the Pacific, including with national governments and regional organisations.
- Collaborate with Pacific researchers, supporting capacity development and promoting their work.
- Contribute to the College's reporting and accountability requirements, including DFAT and Advisory Board reporting.
- Contribute to the College's communication platforms (blogs, podcasts, events) to enhance research dissemination and public impact.
- Contribute to the strategic planning and broader operations of the College, the Crawford School of Public Policy, College of Law, Governance and Policy and ANU.
- Champion collegiality, diversity and inclusion across research, teaching and engagement activities
- Undertake other duties as required from time to time consistent with the classification level of the position.
- Comply with all ANU policies and procedures, and in particular those relating to work health and safety and equal opportunity.
- Be able to travel to the Pacific.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

The College operates at the forefront of regional discussions in a field of transformative significance. The Research and Engagement Academic Fellow is expected to take a leading role within this non-traditional academic environment. The breadth and depth of this role are illustrated in the below selection criteria.

1. PhD or equivalent policy experience in Pacific security, regionalism or related fields, with a strong record of high-quality research, publication and scholarly engagement and/or policy experience.
2. A demonstrated record of high quality, best practice teaching, in the areas of expertise. Proven record of coordination of an excellent curriculum of courses and executive programs, including through the initiation, development and presentation of course materials.
3. A strong record of collaborative and interdisciplinary research and engagement, with demonstrated capacity to influence policy debates, shape practice and contribute to regional knowledge sharing.

4. Proven ability to develop and maintain networks with Pacific universities, academic partners and other stakeholders, underpinned by cultural awareness and professional credibility.
5. Proven ability to organise regional gatherings/ meetings/ dialogues, ensuring an engaging program and achieving policy outcomes;
6. Demonstrated ability to support and mentor Pacific researchers and policy-makers, including through collaborative publishing, research partnerships, policy papers and professional development initiatives.
7. Excellent written and oral communication skills, with experience engaging diverse audiences through academic publications, policy outputs, media contributions and public events.
8. Demonstrated ability to foster respectful and inclusive working relationships, contribute to equity and diversity in workplace practices and work effectively in multicultural and cross-cultural environments.

Employment in this position is conditional on satisfactory results in accordance with the Background Checking Procedure which sets out the types of checks required by each type of position. All appointments are required to make relevant declarations to comply with the National Higher Education Code to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence.

Supervisor/Delegate Name:	Professor Dave Peebles	**Date:**	August 2026

References:
Professional Staff Classification Descriptors
Minimum Standards for Academic Levels (MSAL)

Australian National University

Pre-Employment Work Environment Report

Position Details

College/Div/Centre	ANU College of Law, Governance and Policy	**Dept/School/Section**	Pacific Security College
Position Title	Academic Convener	**Classification**	Academic Level C
Position No.	26331	**Reference No.**	

In accordance with the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Cth) the University has a primary duty of care, so far as reasonably practicable, to ensure the health and safety of all staff while they are at work in the University.

- This form is used to advise potential applicants of work environment and health and safety hazards prior to application.
- This form must be completed by the supervisor of the position. Without this form jobs cannot be advertised.
- Once an applicant has been selected for the position they must familiarise themselves with the University WHS Management System Handbook.
- The hazards identified below are of generic nature in relation to the position. It is not correlated directly to training required for the specific staff to be engaged. Identification of individual WHS training needs must be in accordance with WHS Local Training Plan and through the WHS induction programs and Performance Development Review Process.
- Information regarding reasonable workplace adjustments that may be required to enable an individual to fulfil the inherent requirements of their position is available at 2024_ANU Inherent Requirements Reference Table.pdf

Potential Hazards

Please indicate whether the duties associated with appointment will result in exposure to any of the following potential hazards, either as a **regular** or **occasional** part of the duties.

TASK	regular	occasional	TASK	regular	occasional
key boarding	☒	☐	laboratory work	☐	☐
lifting, manual handling	☐	☐	work at heights	☐	☐
repetitive manual tasks	☐	☐	work in confined spaces	☐	☐
organizing events	☐	☒	noise / vibration	☐	☐
fieldwork & travel	☒	☐	electricity	☐	☐
driving a vehicle	☐	☐			
NON-IONIZING RADIATION			**IONIZING RADIATION**		
solar	☐	☐	gamma, x-rays	☐	☐
ultraviolet	☐	☐	beta particles	☐	☐
infra red	☐	☐	nuclear particles	☐	☐
laser	☐	☐			
radio frequency	☐	☐			
CHEMICALS			**BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS**		
hazardous substances	☐	☐	microbiological materials	☐	☐
allergens	☐	☐	potential biological allergens	☐	☐
cytotoxics	☐	☐	laboratory animals or insects	☐	☐
mutagens/teratogens/ carcinogens	☐	☐	clinical specimens, including blood	☐	☐
pesticides / herbicides	☐	☐	genetically-manipulated specimens	☐	☐
			immunisations	☐	☐

PSYCHOSOCIAL HAZARDS (please specify):

OTHER POTENTIAL HAZARDS (please specify):