Position Title: Research Associate / Research Fellow
Position Number: 8289/166
Position Classification: Research Focused Academic Level A or B
Organisational Unit: The Faculty of Law, Education, Business and Arts
The Northern Institute
Location: Casuarina Campus
Tenure: Up to 2 years fixed-term full-time or part-time appointment
Responsible to: Principal Research Fellow
Employment Conditions: Remuneration Package – Research Academic Level A or B
Base salary of $60,045 - $90,674 (Level A) or $91,877 - $108,846 (Level B) per annum plus superannuation employer contribution of 17%. District Allowance may apply.
Conditions include 6 weeks leave.
Special Conditions: Ability to travel for conferences, seminars and meetings

BUSINESS UNIT ENVIRONMENT
The Faculty of Law, Education, Business and Arts comprises six Schools, the Centre for School Leadership and The Northern Institute. The Faculty drives the twin goals of teaching and research.

The Northern Institute has national and international expertise in the social sciences, humanities, business, law and education, with a particular focus on social and public policy, and industry and community development. The Northern Institute undertakes research design, research analysis, project management and report writing on a variety of social and public policy issues under the Charles Darwin University and Northern Territory Government Partnership Agreement and funding arrangements with national and international partners.

THE ROLE
The Research Associate/Research Fellow will play a major role in the Australian Research Council Discovery Project “Improving Subnational Population Forecasts” with Dr Tom Wilson (CDU), Dr Francisco Rowe (UQ) and Prof. Ludi Simpson (Manchester University, UK). The successful applicant will be part of the Demography and Growth Planning team in the Northern Institute (http://www.cdu.edu.au/northern-institute/our-teams/599).

The aim of the project is to make significant advances in two related areas of regional, council area and local population forecasting: (1) improving accuracy, and (2) providing indications of forecast uncertainty. In order to increase the value of forecasts to users, the project will combine methods from a range of disciplines to devise more accurate ways of forecasting populations, and provide accompanying information on their likely error.

This position provides an exciting opportunity to participate in a project which will make innovative contributions to population forecasting, strengthen Australian research in applied demography, and provide useful outcomes for both producers and users of population forecasts throughout the world.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES
The following examples of accountabilities are not exhaustive and may include others as directed from time-to-time.

Research Duties
- Undertake evaluations of historical population projections;
- Work with the project team to devise innovative methods to improve the accuracy of population projections;
- Work with the project team to develop methods to provide users with indications of the uncertainty of projections;
• Collate, process and maintain large datasets of population projections and estimates, and create appropriate metadata and documentation;
• Co-author presentations for conferences and papers for peer-reviewed journals;
• Supervise postgraduate research students.

Project Administration
• Assist with project planning and administration as required.

Liaison and Communication
• Participate in conferences, seminars and meetings related to the project;
• Contribute to the academic life of the Demography and Growth Planning team and the Northern Institute.

Knowledge and proficiency
• Be familiar with Human Research Ethics and the University's policies.

KEY SELECTION COMPETENCIES
1. Postgraduate degree in demography, population studies, statistics, econometrics, applied mathematics or a cognate numerical discipline, with a strong interest in population projections;
2. Demonstrable statistical modelling skills;
3. Proficient in the use of a statistical package (preferably either R, Stata or Matlab) and Microsoft Office; and good general internet literacy and bibliographic search skills;
4. Experience in the collection and analysis of large socio-economic datasets;
5. Demonstrated academic writing and oral presentation skills;
6. Ability to plan and organise work independently; and work effectively as part of a team;

DESIRABLE SELECTION COMPETENCIES
1. Advanced-level statistical modelling and computer programming experience;
2. Knowledge of population projection methods and Australian demography and demographic data;
3. Track record of publication in high-quality journals.

Closing date: 08 October 2015

CONTACT DETAILS
For further information about the position contact Dr Tom Wilson on 0423 342745 or e-mail Tom.Wilson@cdu.edu.au.
Candidates are encouraged to discuss the position with the contact person before sending in a written application.

SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION
E-recruitment is the method by which Charles Darwin University manages its recruitment process. Applications should be lodged online at Jobs@CDU at url: http://www.cdu.edu.au/ohrs/jobsatcdu.html. For details of the online application process, please refer to Jobs@CDU - How to Apply available at url: http://www.cdu.edu.au/ohrs/how-to-apply.html.
Please do not forward applications to the Contact Person.
If you are unable to submit your application online please obtain an application package by phoning the Recruitment Answering Service on (08) 8946 6284 or email: recruitment@cdu.edu.au.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO APPLY

The University reserves the right not to proceed in making an appointment or to appoint by invitation. The University is an Equal Opportunity Employer and maintains a smoke-free environment.