PhD Opportunity – Palaeoenvironments and Quaternary landscapes of eastern Indonesia
ARC Centre of Excellence for Australian Biodiversity and Heritage, School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Wollongong, Australia
$27,082 pa

The Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Australian Biodiversity and Heritage (CABAH) is a major new research, training and education initiative that brings together leading Australian universities with strategically important Australian and international partners.

We are seeking an outstanding graduate with a strong academic record including an Honours Class I or equivalent to join a project that will investigate Quaternary landscape processes and palaeoenvironmental characteristics of the eastern Indonesian archipelago during the Late Pleistocene and Holocene. The project will focus on two clusters of islands located in the north and south, identified as potential key locations for human migration into Sahul. This region has an important record of past monsoon activity, abundant evidence of tectonic uplift and volcanism, all of which would have influenced patterns of human occupation, dispersal and environmental interactions.

Significant project funding has been committed to this project, which will involve cross-node supervision in a variety of exciting disciplines across CABAH’s nodes at James Cook University (Cairns and Townsville), University of New South Wales (Sydney), Australian National University (Canberra), University of Adelaide and Flinders University (Adelaide), Monash University (Melbourne) and the University of Tasmania (Hobart). Learn more about CABAH at: http://epicaustralia.org.au

You will work as part of an inter-disciplinary team with Earth scientists, archaeologists, ecologists and geneticists, and cross-node researcher exchange will be integral to your CABAH PhD. You will also participate in regular transdisciplinary post-graduate training, to improve your technical, professional and communication skills.

Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders will have access to additional support through dedicated Indigenous Australian initiatives such as mentoring, bursaries and top-up grants. Women will be supported through a range of initiatives, including internships and travel grants.

Applicants must hold a first class honours degree or a Masters by research and/or publications. Candidates with a strong background in Earth or other physical sciences should send a cover letter as an expression of interest, outlining their academic background and skillset, along with an attached CV and suggested referees. Send to tcohen@uow.edu.au

Applications are due by the 22nd April 2018. Commencement: July 2018.

University of Wollongong supervisors: A/Prof Tim Cohen and Prof Richard ‘Bert’ Roberts

For more information, please contact Tim Cohen at: tcohen@uow.edu.au