

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Senior Lecturer

Reports to:	Dean of Engineering
Division:	STEM
Tenure:	Permanent
Location:	Hamilton
Date:	October 2025

Vision

Ko te tangata

A research-intensive university providing a globally connected, innovative and inclusive studenty experience in an environment characterised by a commitment to diversity, respect for Indigenous knowledge, and high levels of community engagement.

Values

Ko te mana o Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato ka herea ki tō tātou:

- Tū ngātahi me te Māori
- Mahi pono
- Whakanui i ngā huarahi hou
- Whakarewa i te hiringa i te mahara

The University of Waikato places a high value on:

- Partnership with Māori
- Acting with integrity
- Celebrating diversity
- Promoting creativity

1. GENERAL

The Division of STEM undertakes teaching and research in a range of core disciplines grouped under three academic schools, Engineering, Science, Computing and Mathematical Sciences. The Division also has several research units, and commercial/equipment units, which embody staff and research activities.

The School of Engineering (Te Kura Mata-Ao) offers BE(Hons) degree programmes in Chemical & Process Engineering, Civil Engineering, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Materials & Process Engineering, Mechatronic Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and a Graduate diploma in Engineering Management. Research and development

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strengths are in, energy, water, robotics, sensing, biomedical engineering, materials, construction, infrastructure and structural engineering.

2. POSITION PURPOSE

This Senior Lecturer position is funded by The Wood Industry Development and Education (WIDE) Trust to increase the number of graduates employed in forest and wood companies and help build strong research relationships between the University and the forest and wood industries.

The Senior Lecturer must contribute to the teaching, postgraduate supervision and administration requirements of the School of Engineering in accordance with workload norms, maintain and develop original scholarship and research, and undertake industry/professional/community/iwi service activities relevant to the profession or discipline.

3. ACCOUNTABILITY

For academic issues, objectives, development and reflection (ODR) and performance review, the position is responsible to the Dean of the School of Engineering and for Teaching related queries is supervised by the Programme Leaders.

4. KEY RELATIONSHIPS:

Internal:

- Dean of Engineering
- Engineering Programme Leaders (Civil, Mechanical, MaME)
- Other academic staff in the School of Engineering
- School Administrative and Technical staff
- Sessional Assistants
- Students
- WIDE Trust
- Relevant research Institutes, Centres, external research agencies and other stakeholders

5. KEY TASKS

Having regard to the aims, objectives and long-term strategic goals of the School of Engineering, Division and the University, the primary objectives required of a Lecturer include the following:

The **Senior Lecturer in Forest and Wood Engineering** and will be expected to:

- Be the academic leader for a theme of Forest and Wood Engineering on BE(Hons) programmes.
- Promote the theme as a career opportunity for engineering students.
- Lead engagement between the forestry and wood sector and academic staff.
- Develop and deliver forest and wood engineering papers, informed by the needs of related industries.
- Collaborate with the Work Integrated Learning (WIL) team to ensure suitable related summer work placements for undergraduate students.
- Organise and supervise appropriate final year undergraduate capstone projects.
- Develop collaborative research projects with regional related industries.
- Seek local funding related research projects.

Teaching and Learning

- Prepare and deliver high quality research-informed lectures and/or seminars and, as appropriate, conduct and/or co-ordinate tutorials, practical classes, demonstrations, or workshops.
- Contribute to or be responsible for paper co-ordination and delivery. This includes: administration; initiating and developing material; appraisal, review and evaluation of programmes and papers; development of the curriculum; where appropriate; and updating teaching resources and materials.
- Develop appropriate student assessments, including the setting of examinations, and provide regular, timely, and constructive feedback to students.
- Promote the development of critical thinking, communication, and research skills.
- Be readily available to advise and meet with students, including maintaining regular office hours.
- Supervise honours, graduate and postgraduate students.
- Participate in professional development activities to ensure teaching practices are relevant to use appropriate pedagogical practices.

Research

- Establish a research agenda, conduct quality research, and contribute to knowledge development.
- Seek out and apply for external research funding and engage in knowledge transfer and commercialisation activities.
- Develop a robust research portfolio demonstrated through regular research outputs in the form of appropriate publications, presentations, and reports.
- Leading a research team and/or obtaining internal or external research funding for specific projects.
- Build and maintain national, and preferably international, research collaborations that enhance the university's profile and reputation.
- Attract and support post-graduate students enabling them to develop their research complete research degrees.

Service and Administration

- Participate in professional and/or community/iwi and/or outreach activities relevant to the School.
- Carry out broad administrative functions, including active and constructive participation at Programme/Division and/or School meetings, and undertake administration, planning and/or committee work where appropriate.
- Support the university's reputation through engagement in student recruitment activities, participation in national advisory boards, contribution to national and international professional groups, and providing media interviews.

Other

- Participate in maintaining a safe and healthy work environment for self and others including students. Comply with and undertake responsibilities set out in the University's Health and Safety Policy.
- Any other duties that are consistent with the position held, other than in exceptional circumstances such as rehabilitation after injury or sickness.

NOTE: Staff will have an annual objectives, development and reflection (ODR) meeting with their manager. New staff normally attend such a meeting approximately three months after taking up their appointment.

6. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

The Lecturer will be performing satisfactorily when:

- Teaching and associated duties are fulfilled to an acceptably high level of competency defined by School/Division expectations.
- Student learning, at all levels, is appropriately facilitated in accordance with the School/Division and University's goals and objectives.
- Personal and/or team research and scholarship activities yield demonstrable outcomes normally evidenced by both continued publications in books and refereed journals and presentation or publication of conference papers; and/or industry sponsored research activities.
- Research collaborations are developed.
- Regular contributions are made to appropriate professional groups and/or in a public service or University or national representation capacity.
- Regular contributions are made to the School administration, as appropriate, relative to workload norms and expectations.
- Safe and healthy work practices are followed. University policies and procedures, relevant work standards and statutory obligations are complied with.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Essential

- A BE(Hons) in forest or mechanical or civil engineering

Preferred

- A PhD in a relevant engineering area – it is required that an appointee without a PhD will enroll on a part-time PhD in a forest or wood engineering related subject.
- Chartered Engineer.

TRAINING, SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

Essential

- Broad knowledge and experience in the forestry or wood industry
- Demonstrated success in undergraduate teaching including use of effective teaching methodologies for settings ranging from large lectures to small labs and tutorials.
- Demonstrated ability to conduct research (through publications) and/or proven track record of industry innovation in forestry or wood related engineering.
- A proven ability to communicate effectively with students and staff.
- Exceptional ability to apply information and communication technologies to achieve desired outcomes.
- Time management skills.
- Ability to contribute to the graduate and postgraduate teaching programme including the supervision of Honours, Masters and PhD students.
- Evidence of the pursuit of lifelong learning to inform teaching, research, and services to the University.

PERSONAL QUALITIES

- Self-motivation and a pro-active approach including a demonstrated commitment to innovation.
- Demonstrated capacity to work effectively as a member of a team.
- Ability to relate effectively and sensitively to students and staff from a variety of backgrounds and cultures.
- Commitment to maintaining and updating information and communication technology skills.
- Commitment to a culture of openness, flexibility and cooperation to achieve excellence in academic programmes, research and service.
- A commitment to equal opportunity for all.