

The Institute for Land Water and Society (ILWS)

Membership Policy

About ILWS

The Institute for Land, Water and Society (ILWS) is a multi and trans-disciplinary research centre with members working in and across a range of fields, including ecology, biodiversity conservation, environmental and natural resource management, social science, economics, and cultural heritage. Some members are employed directly by ILWS, many more are employed by faculties, and membership is spread across our campuses.

ILWS encourages synergies between members from different academic disciplines and supports collaboration and collective achievements that contribute to Charles Sturt University's research strategy. More than the sum of its parts, ILWS supports team and individual research that contributes to its aim:

"To undertake internationally recognised integrated environmental, social and economic research for rural and regional areas".

Membership Categories and Criteria

There are three categories of membership:

- Full Member
- Associate Member
- Higher Degree Research (HDR) Student Member

ILWS also has Adjunct Researchers whose specific areas of expertise and research interest enhance ILWS's research capacity. These researchers, who may be based at other universities, institutions and government agencies, are well respected in areas congruent with ILWS's aim, and are either involved, or have the potential to be involved, in ILWS managed research projects.

Both Associate and Full ILWS Members must:

- have a formal relationship with CSU, normally through being employed by the University as an academic with a research function;
- conduct research that aligns with one or more of ILWS's thematic areas of Biodiversity Conservation, Environmental Water, Rural and Regional Communities and Sustainable Development (International);
- conduct their activities in line with the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research [<https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/publications/australian-code-responsible-conduct-research-2018>]; and
- have completed (or have undertaken to complete within 12 months) Stage 1 of the CSU Indigenous Cultural Competency Program (<https://iccp.csu.edu.au/>) or an equivalent program.

Full ILWS Members must also:

- maintain a minimum level of research activity over a **three-year period** as described by the Research Productivity Index (RPI) policy, where the points received are for research that aligns with ILWS's thematic areas.

Researchers who do not meet the above requirements may make a case for membership that could include:

- demonstration of capacity to move rapidly into a research active role after events such as periods of illness, parental or carer's leave, or changes in career direction or employment; or,
- for members/prospective members that have recently joined the University and for whom Research Office data are incomplete, present research productivity data from previous roles for consideration.

Higher Degree Research Student Members

- are a recipient of an ILWS funded scholarship; or
- are on a scholarship fully or part-funded by an ILWS administered research project; or
- has a supervisor who is a Full Member of ILWS and is conducting a research project congruent with the mission of ILWS.

Membership Benefits

Benefit	Full Member	Associate Member	Student Member	Adjunct Member
Administrative support for grant applications and project management	YES	YES	YES	
Promotion to external stakeholders*	YES	YES	YES	YES
Access to the benefits of collaboration**	YES	YES	YES	YES
Category A Support: Member research time	YES			
Category B Support: Team research and development	YES	YES		YES
Category C Support: Professional development, conference attendance and training	YES			
Associate member support scheme		YES		
Leverage support	YES			
Open access publication support	YES		YES	
Office space (subject to availability)				YES

* Centre website, Quarterly newsletter, media releases, social media promotion, project factsheets, internal updates (e.g. emails, centre meetings)

** Shared facilities, enhanced reputation, strong international links, improved access to information and infrastructure, team membership and capacity building, training and professional development

Dual Research Centre Membership

Exceptional researchers whose research spans the themes of more than one research centre may hold full membership status within ILWS in addition to full membership status of a second research centre. Cases for dual membership will be assessed and determined by the Director. Typically, a researcher will be required to maintain a minimum RPI points total in research areas that align with ILWS's themes (in addition to fulfilling the membership requirements of the second research centre). Research conducted by a dual member that is within one of ILWS's research themes must be managed through and attributed to ILWS.

There is no restriction on ILWS associate members being members of other research centres.

Expectations of Members

All Full and Associate members must (unless they are a member of a second research centre and the research is more aligned to the themes of that research centre):

- submit research grant applications through ILWS and ensure that the Director and Business Manager are aware of all impending applications,
- manage their research income through ILWS, and
- be willing to work in teams as and when appropriate.

All Full, Associate and RHD members must (unless they are a member of a second research centre and the research is more aligned to the themes of that research centre):

- Allocate their affiliation within research publications and other research outputs, to ILWS, i.e.

¹Institute for Land, Water and Society, Charles Sturt University, PO Box 789, Albury NSW 2640 [or an alternative campus address].

It is common to include the member's school as a second affiliation in any research publication.

- Promote their affiliation with the Institute by stating it as their principle organisation during media interviews and through the use of the ILWS logo and templates in research related correspondence
- Be responsive to requests for information from ILWS staff.

Additionally, members may be asked to be involved in:

- major events or activities such as national panels, conferences, reviews,
- management activities within ILWS,
- mentoring less experienced researchers, and
- supervision of HDR students.

Support and Opportunities for Members

Support includes:

- Access to ILWS member research support schemes [Full members only]
- Expert assistance with research funding proposals, including budget advice
- Assistance with the development of major initiatives including the business case, brokering and coordinating proposals, contracts and subcontracts
- Project management support for projects administered by ILWS
- General administrative support, including travel for international and field work funded by ILWS administered projects
- Promotion and organisation of Institute-sponsored events
- Access to ILWS branding including PowerPoint and publication templates
- Publicity and promotion of research and research findings to the wider community, including via ILWS newsletter, Facebook, and Twitter
- Mentoring or capacity development by experienced researchers with targeted mentoring programs

Opportunities include:

- Involvement in collaborative integrated research projects with other members and external partners
- Raising research profile
- Participation in ILWS activities
- Representing ILWS at CSU events or fora

Enquiries, Decisions and Review of Membership

Membership enquiries are welcome. Please email ILWS@csu.edu.au.

Decisions about membership will be made by the Director, based on Research Master data and advice from the Management Team and Executive Deans, and/or additional material in special cases.

Institute membership will be reviewed every two years.

To maintain full membership, researchers must continue to meet the minimum research activity criteria and have met expectations of membership.

HDR Student membership continues until the student has graduated or has left the University.

Membership Application Form (Please include your CV for the ILWS records)

Name:

Qualifications:

Discipline:

Research Interests:

A statement on how you could contribute to the ILWS community:

Contact details: (Including school and campus if applicable)

I have read the ILWS Membership criteria and expectations and would like to apply for:

Full / Associate / HDR Student membership (please delete as appropriate).

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return to: Kris Gibbs: Email: (kgibbs@csu.edu.au)