# RESEARCH FELLOW - VERTEBRATE EMBRYOLOGY AND REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY

**POSITION NO** 0054212

**CLASSIFICATION** Academic Level A or B

**SALARY**
- Level A $75,289 - $102,163 p.a.
- Level B $107,547 - $127,707 p.a.

Level of appointment is subject to the appointee’s research record, qualifications and experience.

**SUPERANNUATION** Employer contribution of 17%

**WORKING HOURS** Full-time (1.0 FTE); Flexible work options can be negotiated for the right candidate.

**BASIS OF EMPLOYMENT** Fixed Term (Until 30 Apr 2024)

**OTHER BENEFITS** [http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers/working/benefits](http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers/working/benefits)

**HOW TO APPLY** Online applications are preferred. Go to [http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers](http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers), select the relevant option ('Current Staff' or 'Prospective Staff'), then find the position by title or number.

**CONTACT FOR ENQUIRIES ONLY**
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*Please do not send your application to this contact*
For information about working for the University of Melbourne, visit our website:
about.unimelb.edu.au/careers
Position Summary

The Research Fellow in Vertebrate Embryology and Reproductive Biology will help lead and conduct projects aimed at developing genetic biocontrol technology for elimination of invasive vertebrate pests.

This Lab works on the development of genetic biocontrol technology (e.g. gene drive), which could have future applications for eliminating invasive vertebrate pest populations. The research involves the generation and analysis of genetically modified zebrafish models to investigate gene drive mechanisms and dynamics. We are also developing methods for genetically modifying four invasive pest species—cane toad, European carp, rabbit, and red fox—to drive population suppression. The role will report to Dr Stephen Frankenberg, Dr Patricia Jusuf, Dr Andrew French, and other members of the project team. The work will involve working closely with Lab members on specific tasks associated with this and related research projects, including experimental design, standard molecular biology and cell culture procedures, egg microinjection, nuclear transfer, animal handling and husbandry, data analysis and preparation of manuscripts for publication.

1. Key Responsibilities

- Molecular cloning, PCR & gel electrophoresis
- Handling and husbandry of fish & cane toads and procedures for the collection of gametes
- Microinjection of eggs from zebrafish, European carp and cane toad
- Cell and embryo culture
- Nuclear transfer of cane toad and mammalian oocytes
- Preparation of scientific data for analysis
- Laboratory support for lab projects
- Development of animal ethics applications
- Contribution to written guides and reports
- Training of students and technical staff

2. Selection Criteria

2.1 ESSENTIAL

- PhD in the biological sciences, or related field
- A demonstrated aptitude for research
- Excellent interpersonal and both written and oral communication skills in English.
- Demonstrated ability to interact positively and work co-operatively in a multi-disciplinary team environment and liaise with people from diverse backgrounds.
- Demonstrated ability to independently develop, administer and see through to completion appropriately designed research projects with supervisory oversight.
- High-level organisational and time-management skills and a demonstrated capacity to bring projects to timely completion.
2.2 DESIRABLE

- Demonstrated experience in animal husbandry
- The ability to develop animal ethics applications
- Experience in vertebrate embryo microinjection or micromanipulation

3. Equal Opportunity, Diversity and Inclusion

The University is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to providing a workplace free from all forms of unlawful discrimination, harassment, bullying, vilification and victimisation. The University makes decisions on employment, promotion and reward on the basis of merit.

The University is committed to all aspects of equal opportunity, diversity and inclusion in the workplace and to providing all staff, students, contractors, honorary appointees, volunteers and visitors with a safe, respectful and rewarding environment free from all forms of unlawful discrimination, harassment, vilification and victimisation. This commitment is set out in the University’s People Strategy 2015-2020 and policies that address diversity and inclusion, equal employment opportunity, discrimination, sexual harassment, bullying and appropriate workplace behaviour. All staff are required to comply with all University policies.

The University values diversity because we recognise that the differences in our people’s age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, nationality, sexual orientation, physical ability and background bring richness to our work environment. Consequently, the People Strategy sets out the strategic aim to drive diversity and inclusion across the University to create an environment where the compounding benefits of a diverse workforce are recognised as vital in our continuous desire to strive for excellence and reach the targets of Growing Esteem.

4. Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)

All staff are required to take reasonable care for their own health and safety and that of other personnel who may be affected by their conduct.

OHS responsibilities applicable to positions are published at:

http://safety.unimelb.edu.au/topics/responsibilities/

These include general staff responsibilities and those additional responsibilities that apply for Managers and Supervisors and other Personnel.

5. Other Information

5.1 SCHOOL OF BIOSCIENCES

http://biosciences.unimelb.edu.au

The School of BioSciences was formed in 2015 through the amalgamation of the School of Botany and the Departments of Genetics and Zoology thus bringing together a critical mass of 160 Academic staff and 240 Research Higher Degree students undertaking world
class teaching and research in the biological sciences. Academics within the School are aligned to four research clusters: Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Science; Genetics, Genomics and Development; Plant Science and Computational Biology. Through cross-disciplinary collaborations within the School and with external partners the School is a major recipient of grant and contract funding.

The School is a major contributor to the Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Biomedical Science and the Environmental Science programs, its teaching program reflecting the research interests within the School.

5.2 FACULTY OF SCIENCE

http://www.science.unimelb.edu.au

Science at the University of Melbourne is the most highly ranked Faculty of Science in Australia. Science is defined by its research excellence in the physical and life sciences and is at the forefront of research addressing major societal issues from climate change to disease. Our discoveries help build an understanding of the world around us.

We have over 150 years of experience in pioneering scientific thinking and analysis, leading to outstanding teaching and learning and offer a curriculum based on highly relevant research, which empowers our STEM students and graduates to understand and address complexities that impact real world issues and the challenges of tomorrow.

We aspire to engage the broader community with the impact that Science has on our everyday lives. Through the strength of our internships and research project offerings, our students are provided opportunities to engage with industry partners to solve real-world issues.

The Faculty of Science has over 50,000 alumni and is one of the largest faculties in the University comprising six schools: BioSciences, Chemistry, Ecosystem and Forest Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics, Physics and the School of Geography, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.

The Faculty is custodian of the Bio21 Molecular Science and Biotechnology Institute, the Indigenous Knowledge Institute, the Melbourne Energy Institute, the Office for Environmental Programs and home to numerous Centres.

Science manages more than $301 million of income per annum, with a staff base in the order of 250 FTE professional staff, and more than 662 FTE academic staff.

We offer a range of undergraduate, honours, graduate and research degrees; enrolling over 10,800 undergraduate and 2,500 graduate students. The Faculty of Science is the custodial Faculty for the BSc (Bachelor of Science). The Faculty of Science is highly research focused, performing strongly in the Australian Research Council competitive grants schemes. The Faculty of Science is currently growing its competitiveness and standing in the National Health and Medical Research Council and health space.

The Faculty of Science provides community services and industry partnerships based on a solid foundation of research in the pure and applied sciences. The Faculty has an endowment of approximately $100 million. The annual income from the endowment supports more than 140 prizes, scholarships and research awards, and numerous academic positions.

5.3 THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE
Established in 1853, the University of Melbourne is a leading international university with a tradition of excellence in teaching and research. The main campus in Parkville is recognised as the hub of Australia’s premier knowledge precinct comprising eight hospitals, many leading research institutes and a wide-range of knowledge-based industries. With outstanding performance in international rankings, the University is at the forefront of higher education in the Asia-Pacific region and the world.

The University employs people of outstanding calibre and offers a unique environment where staff are valued and rewarded.

Further information about working at The University of Melbourne is available at http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers.

5.4 ADVANCING MELBOURNE

The University’s strategic direction is grounded in its purpose. While its expression may change, our purpose is enduring: to benefit society through the transformative impact of education and research. Together, the vision and purpose inform the focus and scale of our aspirations for the coming decade.

Advancing Melbourne reflects the University’s commitment to its people, its place, and its partners. Our aspiration for 2030 is to be known as a world-leading and globally connected Australian university, with our students at the heart of everything we do.

We will offer students a distinctive and outstanding education and experience, preparing them for success as leaders, change agents and global citizens.

We will be recognised locally and globally for our leadership on matters of national and global importance, through outstanding research and scholarship and a commitment to collaboration.

We will be empowered by our sense of place and connections with communities. We will take opportunities to advance both the University and the City of Melbourne in close collaboration and synergy.

We will deliver this through building a brilliant, diverse and vibrant University community, with strong connections to those we serve.

The means for achieving these goals include the development of the University of Melbourne’s academic and professional staff and the capabilities needed to support a modern, world-class university. Those means require a commitment to ongoing financial sustainability and an ambitious infrastructure program which will reshape the campus and our contribution to the communities we engage with. This strategy, and the priorities proposed, is centred around five intersecting themes; place, community, education, discovery and global.

5.5 GOVERNANCE

The Vice Chancellor is the Chief Executive Officer of the University and responsible to Council for the good management of the University.

Comprehensive information about the University of Melbourne and its governance structure is available at http://www.unimelb.edu.au/governance