Melbourne Institute: Applied Economic & Social Research
Faculty of Business and Economics

Senior Research Fellow

POSITION NO 0059760
CLASSIFICATION Level C
SALARY $140,433 – $161,926 p.a.
SUPERANNUATION Employer contribution of 17%
WORKING HOURS Full Time (1.0 FTE)
BASIS OF EMPLOYMENT Continuing (Research Contingent)
OTHER BENEFITS http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers/working/benefits

HOW TO APPLY All applications must be submitted through EconJobMarket. Go to https://econjobmarket.org.

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
Acknowledgement of Country

The University of Melbourne acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the unceded land on which we work, learn and live: the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong peoples (Burnley, Fishermans Bend, Parkville, Southbank and Werribee campuses), the Yorta Yorta Nation (Dookie and Shepparton campuses), and the Dja Dja Wurrung people (Creswick campus).

The University also acknowledges and is grateful to the Traditional Owners, Elders and Knowledge Holders of all Indigenous nations and clans who have been instrumental in our reconciliation journey.

We recognise the unique place held by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the original owners and custodians of the lands and waterways across the Australian continent, with histories of continuous connection dating back more than 60,000 years. We also acknowledge their enduring cultural practices of caring for Country.

We pay respect to Elders past, present and future, and acknowledge the importance of Indigenous knowledge in the Academy. As a community of researchers, teachers, professional staff and students we are privileged to work and learn every day with Indigenous colleagues and partners.

Position Summary

The Melbourne Institute Applied Economic & Social Research is a research-only, academic department in the Faculty of Business and Economics at the University of Melbourne. With 60 years' experience as a distinguished economic and social policy research institution, the Melbourne Institute has a long-standing engagement with Australian economic and social policy, informing and shaping policy by using economic frameworks supported by its strength in building data and undertaking rigorous statistical analysis. The Melbourne Institute has expertise in data analysis, survey methodology, running field experiments and randomised control trials, and working with administrative and proprietary data The Melbourne Institute is also known for creating survey data (e.g. HILDA, Journeys Home, and MABEL), working with administrative data, and the undertaking of randomized control trials and field experiments.

The Senior Research Fellow will be expected to work on externally funded research projects, most notably the HILDA Survey Project, independently as well as with other research staff. They will play a strong role in engaging with non-academic communities on economic and social policy that affects Australia. This includes using state of the art data science tools and techniques to extract new information and insights from large-scale complex economic and social data, including the HILDA Survey data.

The Senior Research Fellow will undertake academic and policy driven research and engagement activities that are externally funded and developed for academic and/or non-academic audiences. The allocation of time will depend on the nature of the funding. There is an expectation of high-quality academic research outputs and the time allocation to deliver these outputs will be appropriate. Successful candidates often find a synergy between policy and academic work. Time will also be devoted towards administrative and service responsibilities for the Melbourne Institute, Faculty and/or University of Melbourne.

As a staff member of the Melbourne Institute, the Senior Research Fellow is expected to work on research projects that lead to high quality peer-reviewed research publications and that influence policy and practice by government and industry. Support for the operations of the Institute is from internal and external sources, including competitive ARC and NHMRC grants, and contract research from government and industry.
1. **Key Responsibilities**

1.1 **RESEARCH & RESEARCH TRAINING - ADVANCEMENT OF THE DISCIPLINE**

- Interact and collaborate with researchers and key stakeholders to establish research approaches and provide advice and support for research projects at the Melbourne Institute.
- Initiate research projects independently and in collaboration with researchers and key stakeholders.
- Make independent and original contributions to research that have a significant impact on field of expertise as demonstrated by a strong record of published work in top peer-reviewed general interest and field-based academic journals.
- Apply for research and project funding either individually and/or as part of a team. This would normally be evidenced by success in obtaining research and project grants.
- Contribute to the development and expertise of the Melbourne Institute more broadly.

1.2 **KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER**

- Develop a national and international reputation for your field of research (academic and engaged) as demonstrated through participation in highly recognised conferences, invitations to speak/chair/discuss at events and seminars, and through the publication of research briefs designed for academic and non-academic audiences.
- Actively participate in the communication and dissemination of research and data analysis.
- Identify sources of funding to support individual or collaborative projects relating to research and engagement practice.
- Undertake engaged activities (analysis, report writing, presentations, meeting with key stakeholders, etc.) that are driven by projects funded through the Melbourne Institute and/or other parts of the university.
- Undertake contract and applied research and the production of reports/papers.

1.3 **LEADERSHIP & SERVICE**

- Assist in the shaping of engaged work tied to demonstrating the Melbourne Institute’s rigour and strength in undertaking analyses to inform Australian economic and social policy.
- Lead project teams that successfully contribute to a range of academic and engaged research projects.
- Contribute positively to the smooth operation of the research and to the work of the Melbourne Institute.
- Undertake other duties commensurate with the position in alignment with the Melbourne Institute Director and Senior Research Staff.
- Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) responsibilities as outlined in section 4.
2. Selection Criteria

2.1 ESSENTIAL

- A PhD or equivalent in economics or discipline related to economic and social policy.
- Strong track record in applied microeconomics as evidenced by publications in high quality refereed journals and conference presentations.
- Substantial experience in the econometric analysis of microeconometric data using STATA.
- Strong track record in undertaking research projects for non-academic audiences and/or translating academic research analysis to non-academic audiences.
- A demonstrated record in undertaking policy-relevant research and communicating the results of that research to a range of stakeholders including the production of research reports for government, effective participation in public forums, interactions with the media and the like.
- An ability to conduct independent economic and/or social research and assume responsibility for the development and completion of research projects and papers
- An ability to work as part of a research team and supervise the junior members of staff to meet the aims and deadlines of a project.
- Demonstrated ability to liaise with external clients in government and business sectors
- Demonstrated understanding of social and economic data.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.

2.2 DESIRABLE

- Experience in the analysis of household panel survey data (and especially the HILDA Survey data).
- An understanding of the features of economic and social policy in Australia.
- Ability to work effectively with external clients.
- Evidence of an emerging national or international reputation.
- Evidence of success in obtaining research funding or working in a team that obtains external funding.

2.3 OTHER JOB RELATED INFORMATION

- A police check is a requirement of the appointment.
- Operational requirements may influence approval of annual leave and require occasional work outside of normal business hours.

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 Advancing Melbourne strategy that addresses 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 Advancing Melbourne.

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/people/community/responsibilities-of-personnel

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

5. Other Information

5.1 ORGANISATION UNIT

http://melbourneinstitute.unimelb.edu.au/

The Faculty is home to Melbourne Business School (MBS) and to five teaching and research departments:

- Accounting
- Economics
- Finance
- Management and Marketing
- Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research

The Faculty has the following student and academic support centres:

- Academic Programs
- Student Experience and Experiential Learning
- Research Development Unit
• The Williams Centre for Learning Advancement
• Quality Office

The faculty also hosts a University-wide initiative:

The Melbourne School of Professional and Continuing Education (MSPACE) which provides support to all Academic Divisions for their existing professional, continuing and executive education programs, and operates with a specific whole-of-institution mandate to significantly expand the University’s professional, continuing and executive education offerings.

5.2 BUDGET DIVISION

The Faculty of Business and Economics at the University of Melbourne has been preparing students for exciting and challenging careers in industry since 1924. We have developed an outstanding reputation, locally and internationally, for the quality of our teaching and research. The Faculty has an active board of business leaders, government representatives and community leaders who contribute to the implementation of our vision.

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 https://about.unimelb.edu.au/strategy/governance