Research Fellow (Food Science)

POSITION NO 0059840
CLASSIFICATION Level A
SALARY $80,258 – $108,906 per annum (pro-rata for part time)
SUPERANNUATION Employer contribution of 17%
WORKING HOURS Part-time (0.6 FTE)
BASIS OF EMPLOYMENT Fixed term for 12 months

FLEXIBLE EMPLOYMENT
The University of Melbourne is strongly committed to supporting diversity and flexibility in the workplace. Applications for part-time or other flexible working arrangements will be welcomed and will be fully considered subject to meeting the inherent requirements of the position.

OTHER BENEFITS https://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers/staff-benefits
HOW TO APPLY Online applications are preferred. Go to http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers, select the relevant option (‘Current Opportunities’ or ‘Jobs available to current staff’), then find the position by title or number.

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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 country throughout Australia. The University recognises the unique place held by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the original custodians of country and their continued connection to the land, waterways, songlines and culture. The University respects all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People and warmly embrace those students, staff, Elders and collaborators who identify as First Nations.

Position Summary

We are seeking an innovative Research Fellow to join our research team in the field of Food Science. The successful candidate will play a crucial role in conducting cutting-edge research in food and gut microbiota interaction and collaborating with multi-disciplinary teams to investigate the bioactive components in food, their transformation during digestion and colonic fermentation, and impacts on gut health. Candidates with previous research experience in gut microbiota and antibiotic resistant bacteria is preferred.

1. Key Responsibilities

- **Conduct Research**: Design, plan, and execute research projects in the field of food and gut microbiota interaction.
- **Data Analysis, preparation report and publication**: Utilize statistical methods and software tools to analyse experimental data, draw meaningful conclusions, prepare research reports, and publish results in international peer-reviewed journals.
- **Project management**: Contribute to the management of project budget, milestones and deliverables.
- **Team Collaboration**: Work closely with interdisciplinary teams, including microbiologists, biochemists and statisticians, to conduct interdisciplinary research. Assist in the mentoring of PhD and Master’s students, fostering a collaborative research environment.
- **Lab Management**: Oversee laboratory activities, including updating consumables inventory, ordering consumables, equipment maintenance, and implementing safety protocols.
- **Grant Writing**: Assist with preparation of applications for research funding.

2. Selection Criteria

2.1 ESSENTIAL

- **Education**: A Ph.D. in Food Science, Nutritional Science, Microbiology or a closely related field.
- **Research Expertise**: Demonstrated experience in designing and conducting experiments, data analysis, and interpretation within the field of food chemistry, gut microbiome, and antibiotic resistant microorganisms.
- **Publication Record**: A track record of publishing research findings in highly ranked peer-reviewed journals of the relevant field.
Technical Skills: Demonstrated experience in bioinformatic analysis of sequencing data; demonstrated experience in performing qPCR analysis; demonstrated experience in performing chemical analysis of metabolites using biochemical and analytical techniques.

Collaborative Nature: Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work effectively as part of a multidisciplinary team.

Communication: Excellent written and oral communication skills with a track record of oral presentations at domestic and international conferences of the field.

Project Management: Attention to detail and the ability to manage multiple tasks simultaneously.

2.2 DESIRABLE

Research experience and publication in antibiotic resistant microorganisms are highly appreciated.

Demonstrated capacity to assist in attracting external funding to support scholarly activities.

Experience in working within a University/Food & Nutrition Industry environment.

2.3 OTHER JOB RELATED INFORMATION

The main working location will be Parkville campus of the University of Melbourne. The candidate may need to collaborate with industry partners and external research collaborators, and may need to travel to, or work from other sites as required.

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:

https://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 SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ECOSYSTEM SCIENCES

https://safes.unimelb.edu.au/

The School of Agriculture, Food and Ecosystem Sciences has a vision of science for flourishing environments and communities. The School brings together diverse discipline strengths to lead the development of new interdisciplinary thinking and high-impact solutions for global challenges relating to climate change, food security, healthy food systems, biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management, invasive species, and environmentally and economically sustainable agricultural practices. Our expertise spans biophysical, social and technical sciences, and we support a large cohort of PhD students across these domains.

The School teaches a range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs, including the Bachelor of Agriculture, several majors of the Bachelor of Science and, and six Master coursework programs: Master of Agricultural Sciences, Master of Ecosystem Management and Conservation, Master of Food and Packaging Innovation, Master of Food Science, Master of Urban Horticulture and Master of Environment.

The School is situated across four University campuses, with dedicated agriculture, forest and fire, and urban horticulture facilities that enable exceptional and tailored research capacities as well as unique hands-on learning experience. The School is actively engaged in partnerships with industry, government, alumni, and the community to share knowledge and co-develop solutions to real-world problems. Join a vibrant community committed to benefiting people and nature through education and research.

5.2 FACULTY OF SCIENCE

https://science.unimelb.edu.au/

Science at Melbourne is a global leader across discovery, fundamental and applied scientific research and education. Science begins with curiosity, and we are dedicated to understanding the universe from the level of sub-atomic particles to the solar system. We aim to be leaders who positively impact the community locally and globally, addressing major societal issues from climate change to disease. Our discoveries help build an understanding of the world around us.

Our strength is our breadth of expertise. We are the second largest faculty in the
University comprising seven schools: Agriculture, Food, & Ecosystems Sciences; BioSciences; Chemistry; Geography, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences, Mathematics & Statistics, Physics; and Veterinary Science.

This depth of knowledge positions the faculty to better understand, explore and impact our world and humanity, within a truly comprehensive Faculty of Science.

We have more than 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. We aim to train students with the knowledge and intellectual flexibility to drive the industries of tomorrow and lead across all levels of society.

We offer a range of undergraduate, honours, graduate and research degrees; enrolling more than 11,500 undergraduate and 3,750 graduate students.

We are dedicated to delivering leading transformative educational outcomes, underpinned by research, and an inclusive and inspiring student experience.

Excellence comes in many forms and diversity of thought, perspective and disciplines is essential to deliver globally leading science. At the core of our success is our focus on an inclusive environment for all in our community. Our Faculty’s focus on equity, inclusion and belonging is grounded in our endeavour to ensure we are best placed to advance research and teaching, and to serve diverse national and global communities.

As a Science community we sit across five of the University’s campuses – Parkville, Dookie, Burnley, Creswick and Werribee. This reach provides us with a unique perspective that is beneficial to our teaching and research. It also means we can offer our students a greater variety of learning experiences and internships to engage with industry partners to solve real-world issues.

We are the highest ranked science faculty amongst all Australian universities, and are ranked amongst the top science faculties in the world. The Faculty is custodian of the Bio21 Molecular Science and Biotechnology Institute, Office for Environmental Programs, Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute (AMSI), the Indigenous Knowledge Institute, the Melbourne Energy Institute, the Biodiversity Institute and home to numerous Centres.

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