POSITION DESCRIPTION

The University of Melbourne 
(logo)

Centre of Wellbeing Science

Faculty of Education

Professor (Community Wellbeing)

Richmond Fellowship Queensland Centre of Excellence

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| Position No | 0063703 |
| Classification | Professor (Level E) |
| Salary | Level E - $226,517 per annum (pro rata for part-time) |
| Superannuation | Employer contribution of 17% |
| WORKING HOURS | Full Time (1 FTE) |
| BASIS OF EMPLOYMENT | Fixed term available for 5 years  Work focus category: Education and Research |
| Other Benefits | <https://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers/staff-benefits> |
| How to Apply | Go to [http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers,](http://hr.unimelb.edu.au/careers) under Current staff or Prospective staff, select the relevant option (‘Current Opportunities’ or ‘Jobs available to current staff’) and search for the position by title or number.  Indigenous applicants are encouraged to apply. |
| contact For enquiries only | Professor Dianne Vella-Brodrick  +61 3 8344 0254  Dianne [Vella-Brodrick@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:Vella-Brodrick@unimelb.edu.au)  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](https://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.

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>

The Faculty of Education

The Faculty of Education (FoE) fosters staff productivity, growth and engagement in a collective effort to enrich the contribution that education makes to society. We conduct research and teaching that leads to the transformation of education practice both within and beyond the profession. FoE stimulates learning that enriches the potential of students from around the world, enabling meaningful careers and profound contributions to communities. We provide research leadership, setting the direction for high-impact, innovative and responsive research that addresses the pressing issues of our time. We lead purposeful engagement with society, sharing our resources and expertise as part of collaborative efforts to build a resilient, equitable and sustainable future.

Centre for Wellbeing Science

The Centre for Wellbeing Science (CWS) is Australia’s leading research Centre in positive psychology and is part of FoE at the University of Melbourne. We are at the forefront of innovation in wellbeing, mental health promotion and education, working with partners in schools, communities, government and beyond, constantly seeking new and improved ways to support Australia’s mental health and education systems. CWS is a hub for interdisciplinary research and teaching activities associated with wellbeing science, including positive psychology, positive education, mental health and education policy.

Our purpose at CWS is to build and use the science of wellbeing to help individuals and communities to flourish. We realise this purpose by using new approaches in our work which involve building learning capabilities and adopting a strengths-based lens. We strive to work with government and non-government organisations, service providers and community groups, both locally and internationally, to improve mental health and education systems to enhance wellbeing literacy and flourishing. We have a special focus on working with young people to equip and empower them to flourish and be positive change agents in their community.

Richmond Fellowship Queensland (RFQ)

Richmond Fellowship Queensland (RFQ) is a well-respected not for profit provider of community sector mental health services, serving the community for 50 years. RFQ was founded in Richmond, England, in 1959 and it became a worldwide mental health movement. RFQ is a member of the Richmond Fellowship Asia Pacific Forum.

RFQ builds on its traditional values and strong mission focus with progressive thinking, advanced research and best practice service delivery, evidenced by several significant research and evaluation partnerships with universities across Australia. The organisation provides a professional work environment with a commitment to the development of its leadership team and all staff. RFQ also provides an ethos where people find meaning in the higher purpose of serving the community.

The organisation employs staff across 20 service sites in wider Brisbane, Caboolture, Redcliffe, Redlands, Logan, West Moreton, Darling Downs, Wide Bay, Gold Coast and Townsville. RFQ has multiple formal partnerships with Hospital and Health Services, Primary Health Networks, Beyond Blue and Comcare [17 Australian Government departments]. RFQ has a number of academic partnerships and research, and evaluation is a high priority for the organisation.

RFQ’s partnership with the Centre for Wellbeing Science included the launching of a Wellbeing Literacy Program in 2022. A cultural adaptation of the program was undertaken for First Nations communities. RFQ is working towards being recognised as a centre of excellence in wellbeing and mental health research. RFQ’s commitment is to ensure its work benefits the wellbeing of individuals and communities more widely.

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 2023-2030 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.

About the Role

Position purpose:

This exciting position is a professorial position supported by a partnership between RFQ and the University of Melbourne. The incumbent will be responsible for advancing research, education and practice in wellbeing science. This will involve developing, implementing and evaluating community-based wellbeing programs. In addition, the role will include an education and training component where the incumbent will lead cutting edge teaching that integrates community-based experiences for optimal learning. The University of Melbourne and RFQ partnership and this position are designed to make a unique contribution as an applied research centre, leading the field of wellbeing and thriving, including developing the tools that will support people with their self-development, personal growth and resilience.

The appointee will be well respected within the mental health and wellbeing science academic and professional communities. They will have a specialisation that aligns closely with the CWS goal of making sustained impact upon the economic, psycho-social and cultural wellbeing of Australian society and the RFQ goal of promoting mental health and wellbeing and reducing social stigma among communities impacted by mental health concerns. They will have a demonstrated commitment to fostering the development and implementation of research, training and teaching programs to create positive transformation to diverse communities and groups with significant mental health needs. Experience and demonstrated success in engaging with relevant community groups about mental health and wellbeing is essential.

In addition, the appointee is expected to make an outstanding contribution to the teaching, research and engagement priorities of the FoE with particular expertise in community engagement, project management and research translation. The person will contribute to teaching in the Master of Applied Positive Psychology (MAPP), and undergraduate breadth subjects in wellbeing science. The ability to influence and stimulate the student experience through the use of innovative teaching and learning initiatives and to supervise research higher degree students is critical.

This senior position requires a high degree of independent work, minimum supervision and high level of innovation and problem-solving skills connected with project management and the conceptual demands of undertaking research, teaching and community engagement. The appointee is also expected to supervise a number of other academics within the Centre. They may also be involved in other committees and leadership roles in RFQ, FoE, the UoM.

The position will also work closely with RFQ’s Research and Evaluation and Performance and Analytics teams.

Governance

This will be a position that supports a collaboration between RFQ and UoM. The appointee will report to the Director of the Centre for Wellbeing Science, University of Melbourne for the full duration of the appointment and will be based at the UoM.

The position will also provide information, advice and/or reports to RFQ’s CEO (or delegate) and a governance committee comprising of CWS and RFQ leaders. While the role will be predominantly based in Melbourne, the incumbent will be required to travel on occasions and work in Brisbane to spend dedicated time with RFQ staff and to engage closely with their clients and service providers. Liaising with partners and stakeholders is essential to this role. The appointee will be responsible for initiating and leading research projects that have been discussed in the governance committee and agreed by the Director at CWS and the RFQ CEO (or delegate).

Reporting line: Professor Dianne Vella-Brodrick, Director of the Centre for Wellbeing Science, UoM

No. of direct reports: 4

No. of indirect reports: 0

Direct budget accountability:

**Key Dimensions and Responsibilities:**

Task level: Extensive

Organisational knowledge: Extensive Judgement: Extensive

Operational context: Academic Division

OH&S and compliance:

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. These include general staff responsibilities and those additional responsibilities that apply for managers, supervisors and other personnel. Specific responsibilities for the role are available at <http://safety.unimelb.edu.au/topics/responsibilities/>.

Staff must comply with all relevant requirements under the University’s risk management framework including legislation, statutes, regulations and policies.

# Core Accountabilities

## leadership and service

* Initiate and lead projects jointly supported by CWS and RFQ.
* Contribute to the vision and conceptualization of a “Centre of Excellence” in the field of wellbeing and thriving.
* Contribute to teaching and learning by integrating insights from the joint CWS and RFW research programs. Ensure the University requirements and standards are met; develop innovative teaching and learning experiences to optimise student engagement.
* Provide academic leadership by supporting and mentoring junior academic staff, effectively leading teams, and engaging in administrative, financial and resource management as needed.
* Represent the interests of the University and RFQ through membership of committees
* Promote the University and the discipline by participating in appropriate professional activities such as leadership committees of professional associations and presenting keynote addresses at national and international conferences.

## research – advancement of the discipline

* Pursue research excellence in wellbeing science and positive psychology.
* Promote research innovation and real-world translation that will be of relevance to University of Melbourne and RFQ.
* Liaise effectively with stakeholders and community groups to develop transformative research with sustained wellbeing outcomes.
* Attract collaborations with high quality research scholars from a wide range of disciplines and from around the globe to achieve research goals and develop a program of international standing.
* Generate substantial research funds from government, industry and/or national competitive sources.
* Direct and manage major research projects over all phases from conceptualization to report-writing and presenting at conferences.
* Develop a graduate research program and a supervision plan that will attract high quality students.
* Publish in leading peer-reviewed journals, books, reports and refereed conference proceedings within the fields of wellbeing science, positive psychology and related areas.
* Develop research and consultancy links with government and industry, based on responsiveness to key policy challenges, locally and nationally.
* Participate in research activities of the faculty such as the faculty’s seminar programs and workshops.

## teaching and learning

* Teach in the Faculty and CWS programs, particularly in applied research, community engagement and systems subjects.
* Supervise and participate in supervisory panels for postgraduate students undertaking research projects or degrees.
* Contribute to the development, review and evaluation of courses and subjects in the Centre and in the faculty’s teaching programs.

## ENGAGEMENT

* Work collaboratively with RFQ, to achieve project goals including by undertaking projects located at RFQ’s premises from time to time and, upon request, giving RFQ permission to access and use scholarly works prepared as a result.
* Actively engage with and influence educational and public health policy and public debate related to wellbeing, mental health and wellbeing education.
* Provide research-based advice and support to government and educational bodies, local organisations, or other community groups on wellbeing science and wellbeing education.
* Engage in professional development in the area of wellbeing science, positive psychology, education, and related disciplines, maintaining knowledge of current research, professional practice standards, resources and public concerns and needs.
* Actively contribute to CWS, RFQ and the University’s discourse on wellbeing science and related fields using various communication platforms.

## RESPONSIBILITY and COMPLIANCE

* Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) responsibilities in accordance with University policy and procedures.
* All staff are expected to maintain the following behaviours:
  + Treat everyone equitably; act fairly with staff and demonstrate respect for diversity.
  + Be an effective team player who is cooperative and easily gains the trust and support of staff, peers, community groups and clients through collaboration.

# Selection Criteria

Education/qualification

* + 1. A PhD or equivalent research doctorate in positive psychology and wellbeing science as well as demonstrated experience working at a Professor level.
    2. Demonstrated capacity to make a leadership contribution to the future directions of research to meet community and global needs relating to wellbeing and human thriving.
    3. Experience in working with service providers and community groups to deliver mental health and wellbeing programs to diverse groups.
    4. Evidence of successful teaching at undergraduate and graduate level, including the ability to make significant contributions to the design and coordination of innovative and distinguished programs as well as successful knowledge transfer activities.
    5. A proven track record of successfully generating funds from government, industry, and national- competitive sources.
    6. An established international research profile with a significant record of publications in leading journals.
    7. Excellent leadership, interpersonal, and communication skills, with the ability to work and contribute collaboratively in a research or teaching team.
    8. Demonstrated capacity to provide high quality supervision for higher degree students.
    9. Proven record in developing collaborative relationships nationally or abroad.

## DESIRABLE

* + 1. Established links with education providers, health care organisations, or other professional associations, and an ability to develop strong links and partnerships with other key professional organisations.
    2. Potential for contributing to the development of evidence-based government policy.
    3. Research experience in areas relating to wellbeing literacy, emotion regulation, systems thinking and/or interdisciplinary perspectives of wellbeing.
    4. Involvement in relevant professional associations and evidence of contributions to the community.

## REGISTRATION

* + 1. Eligibility for and registered with Australian Health Practitioners Registration Authority

## OTHER JOB-RELATED INFORMATION:

* + Working with children check.
  + Standard Driver’s License (to conduct school visits when required).
  + Regular travel to Queensland will be required.