RESEARCH OFFICER

DEPARTMENT/UNIT
Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

FACULTY/DIVISION
Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

CLASSIFICATION
HEW Level 5

WORK LOCATION
Clayton campus

ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

Monash is a university of transformation, progress and optimism. Our people are our most valued asset, with our academics among the best in the world and our professional staff revolutionising the way we operate as an organisation. For more information about our University and our exciting future, please visit www.monash.edu.

The Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, is the largest faculty at Monash University, and offers the most comprehensive suite of professional health training in Victoria. We consistently rank in the top 40 universities worldwide for clinical, pre-clinical and health sciences.

We want to improve the human condition. That is our vision - it has no expiration date. Through academic health centres, other translational models and by educating the healthcare workforce of the future, our staff, students and alumni directly improve quality of life.

Setting the global health care agenda, the Faculty aspires to lead in all areas of research activity and influence local, national and international policy to improve health and social outcomes and health inequalities. We’ve made a major impact in the world of medical research and become globally recognised for our quality education of over 41,000 doctors, nurses, and allied health professionals.

We are ambitious and aim to maintain our position as a leading international medical research university. We’re recognised for the breadth and depth of our research, for our commitment to translational research, for the quality and scale of our research capability, and as a thriving biotechnology hub.

To learn more about the faculty, please visit monash.edu/medicine.

The Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute (BDI) is one of the largest and most dynamic biomedical research and teaching environments in Australia. The Institute and its cognate Departments of Anatomy and Developmental Biology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Microbiology, Pharmacology and Physiology comprise over 120 research groups and deliver discipline-focused teaching into our flagship Bachelor of Biomedical Science Degree, the Bachelor of Science Degree, as well as the Medical School and various Health-related Degree Programs. We pride ourselves on an excellent and evolving teaching curriculum and provide world-class teaching and learning space for Biomedical Sciences.

The BDI comprises six inter-disciplinary health-focused research Programs, each led by a renowned leader in the field. The BDI programs include Infection and Immunity, Cancer, Cardiovascular Disease, Development and Stem
Cells, Metabolism, Diabetes and Obesity and Neuroscience. The BDI works closely with clinical and drug development precincts at Monash and has a number of major industry partnerships to facilitate the translation of our research.

For more information about the BDI please visit our website at www.monash.edu.au/discovery-institute.

The Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology is the largest of the five departments in the School of Biomedical Sciences. Biochemistry and molecular biology are closely-related disciplines which study the chemical components of living cells, including the genetic material, in order to understand biological processes and how these are altered in disease.

Research and teaching in the department encompasses six broad themes: cell biology, signal transduction, host/pathogen interaction, structural biology, immunology and developmental biology. Our research is highly relevant to major human diseases and pathological processes, including infection, inflammation, diabetes and obesity, developmental and degenerative disorders, cardiovascular disease, and cancer. The Department has been ranked as the premier Department in its discipline since the inception of ARC benchmarking of Australian Departments in 1998.

Further details about the department can be found at www.med.monash.edu.au/biochem/

POSITION PURPOSE

The Research Officer provides a variety of high-quality research services to support the operations of the Mitochondrial Biology Lab within the Monash BDI, supporting the delivery of mitochondrial biology and disease research outcomes. This includes undertaking cell culture, molecular biology, live-cell microscopy and research laboratory administration, while ensuring a compliant and safe research environment.

The Research Officer operates with a focus on excellence in process and judgment and provision of sound and timely advice and support to researchers within the lab, wider BDI and external collaborators.

Reporting Line: The position reports to the Research Fellow and Professor

Supervisory Responsibilities: Not applicable

Financial Delegation: Not applicable

Budgetary Responsibilities: Not applicable

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Support the achievement of research outcomes by undertaking a range of research and administrative support tasks including scheduling bookings, administering experiments, treatments or questionnaires, data collection, input and analysis and preparing results in accordance with established research objectives, timeframes and protocols

2. Keep abreast of developments, activities and protocols in area of expertise through liaison with staff and peers, reading relevant literature and attending meetings and seminars

3. Assist in preparing documentation reports and other documentation, including undertaking literature reviews and data analysis

4. Comply with established research methodology, policy, protocols, OHS and regulatory requirements

5. Participate in and implement continuous improvement activities relating to project, research or technical procedures and quality assurance standards

6. Maintain open and effective channels of communication with colleagues, research collaborators and other stakeholders to support and facilitate research objectives
KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

Education/Qualifications

1. The appointee will have:
   - A tertiary qualification in a relevant field; or
   - substantial relevant skills and work experience; or
   - an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training

Knowledge and Skills

2. Sound analytical, technical and data analysis skills and a demonstrated capacity to apply effective technical methods, processes and systems
3. Strong organisational skills, including the ability to set priorities, manage time and plan work to meet deadlines
4. Demonstrated project administration skills with the ability to support research projects accordance with agreed standards and timeframes
5. Ability to work as an effective member of a team as well as independently under general supervision
6. Strong attention to detail and accuracy and an understanding of confidentiality, privacy and information handling principles
7. Well-developed communication skills, including the ability to draft a range of documentation
8. A high level of computer literacy, including demonstrated experience in learning and adopting new software packages as required
9. Expertise in cell culture, molecular biology and/or mouse work

OTHER JOB RELATED INFORMATION

● Travel to other campuses of the University may be required
● There may be a requirement to work additional hours from time to time
● There may be peak periods of work during which taking of leave may be restricted

GOVERNANCE

Monash University expects staff to appropriately balance risk and reward in a manner that is sustainable to its long-term future, contribute to a culture of honesty and integrity, and provide an environment that is safe, secure and inclusive. Ensure you are aware of and adhere to University policies relevant to the duties undertaken and the values of the University. This is a standard which the University sees as the benchmark for all of its activities in Australia and internationally.