

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (RESEARCH) – CIRCULAR ECONOMY TRANSITIONS

DEPARTMENT/UNIT	Monash Sustainable Development Institute
FACULTY/DIVISION	Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) and Senior Vice President
CLASSIFICATION	Level D
DESIGNATED CAMPUS OR LOCATION	Clayton campus

ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

At [Monash](#), work feels different. There's a sense of belonging, from contributing to something groundbreaking – a place where great things happen. You know you're part of something special and purposeful because, like Monash, your ambitions drive you to make change.

We have a clear purpose to deliver groundbreaking intensive research; a world-class education; a global ecosystem of enterprise – and we activate these to address some of the [challenges](#) of the age, Climate Change, Thriving Communities and Geopolitical Security.

We welcome and value difference and [diversity](#). When you come to work, you can be yourself, be a change-maker and develop your career in exciting ways with curious, energetic, inspiring and committed people and teams driven to make an impact – just like you.

Together with our [commitment to academic freedom](#), you will have access to quality research facilities, infrastructure, world class teaching spaces, and international collaboration opportunities.

We champion an [inclusive workplace culture](#) for our staff regardless of ethnicity or cultural background. We have also worked to improve [gender equality](#) for more than 30 years. Join the pursuit of our purpose to build a better future for ourselves and our communities – [#Changelt](#) with us.

The **Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) and Senior Vice-President (DVCR)** is responsible for the development, implementation and continuous improvement of the University's research vision within the changing landscape of higher education, ensuring delivery of accountabilities within the context of the University's strategic plan. Reporting to the President and Vice-Chancellor and as an

integral member of the University's executive team, the DVCR further advances the University's research performance, diversifies research funding, oversees research infrastructure strategy, and fosters interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary areas of excellence, collaboration and innovation within Monash and with global research partners. Further information about the University's organisational governance and structure is available at www.monash.edu/about/structure.

As a leading interdisciplinary research, education and impact organisation, **Monash Sustainable Development Institute (MSDI)** is advancing the wellbeing of people and planet, for current and future generations. Monash University has a wealth of sustainable development expertise across its faculties and international campuses. MSDI engages across Monash to bring together applied and transdisciplinary researchers, practitioners and students to advance systems transformation for sustainable development; and provides a platform to create change through deep collaboration, working in close partnership with government, industry and communities to amplify our impact. MSDI is also host to the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Regional Centre. We offer forward-thinking study programs and courses that enable people and organisations to engage with and respond to some of the biggest environmental, economic and social challenges facing our world today. For more information, please visit www.monash.edu/msdi.

The mission of MSDI is to understand, influence and transform systems for sustainable development in Australia and our region, collaborating with partners to build knowledge and capacity, and drive practical change. Through MSDI's 2021-2025 Strategy, we are striving to generate transformational impact in 6 domains aligned to MSDI's key strengths and areas of influence. We bring a powerful set of MSDI capabilities to the task of transforming systems for sustainable development.

Circular Economy is one of MSDI's six domains of change for a more sustainable, secure and fairer future for all. Underpinned by our strong relationships with public and private sector partners, we are experimenting with, developing, and promoting pathways to circular economy through behavioural, policy, place-based, and community-oriented solutions. In the coming 5 years, we aim to explore, catalyse, and actively promote pathways to innovate and adopt sustainable production and consumption practices, to move Australia towards a circular economy.

Monash and the Monash Sustainable Development Institute values staff diversity and champions inclusive practices. We are committed to equitable decision making and apply the principles of [achievement relative to opportunity](#) in our selection processes.

POSITION PURPOSE

The **Associate Professor – Circular Economy Transitions** is responsible for identifying, leading and undertaking interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research projects, nationally and internationally. Beyond a track record of deep disciplinary expertise and domain knowledge, the Associate Professor - Circular Economy Transitions will act as an integration expert, ensuring integration, alignment, and boundary spanning across research disciplines and styles, and between research, education, and the needs of external partners and funders. This position will also bring a systems transformation perspective to address pressing problems in the transition to a circular economy. The Associate Professor – Circular Economy Transitions is expected to grow circular economy capacity across MSDI through successfully developing and leading impactful research and translation projects, connecting like-minded leaders in areas related to sustainable development, sustainability transitions, behaviour change, and circular economy or adjacent disciplines.

The Associate Professor - Circular Economy Transitions will actively engage and collaborate with Australian stakeholders from government, industry and community to further build Monash University's industry connections and strategic alliances relevant to research and capacity building for the circular economy. The position will play an active role in attracting research funding as well as participate in MSDI strategy development and contribute to MSDI's sustainable development

education program including through postgraduate supervision. This position aims to have policy impact and advance scholarly debate in a range of policy areas relevant to tackling the transition to circular economies by harnessing the broader interests and expertise of MSDI and build relationships with the community of Monash researchers.

The role is anticipated to devote 50% of time on leading and undertaking interdisciplinary research, 40% on integration activities and engagement, and 10% on education.

Reporting Line: The position reports to the MSDI Deputy Director, Research

Supervisory Responsibilities: This position provides supervision to professional and academic staff

Financial Delegation: Not applicable

Budgetary Responsibilities: The position will be responsible for the management of relevant research grants

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Specific duties required of a Level D research-only academic may include:

1. Actively conducting original research in an area of expertise relevant to circular economy and leading a collaborative, boundary crossing and translation research program to conduct interdisciplinary research including working closely with key Monash researchers and staff in Monash faculties
2. Provision of leadership in the integration of circular economy initiatives across MSDI's organisational units, incubating new MSDI-wide flagship projects and contributing to impact and engagement through internal and external leadership in the areas of the Circular Economy
3. Nurturing and growing circular economy capability and capacity through providing leadership and contributing to training and education within MSDI, Monash and externally
4. Synthesising interdisciplinary research outputs and translating research findings into products, tools and frameworks for practical application in the circular economy sectors
5. Preparing reports, articles and publications that profile the work, expertise and outputs of MSDI in national and international forums and outlets, including in refereed journals with high level academic or commercial publishers, conferences and in non-academic publications
6. Preparing research proposal submissions and maintaining strong relationships with major funding bodies, researchers and key external stakeholders to attract and secure external and government funding to the University consistent with MSDI objectives
7. Maintaining close links and working with key external industry partners, government and other stakeholders to address their research and synthesis needs, identify future research and research translation opportunities, including policy, and profile the research activities and expertise of MSDI in the area of circular economy, both nationally and internationally
8. Contributing to the formulation and implementation of government policy and industry practice at national and international levels including through participation in strategic networks, advisory bodies, expert panels, and other influential roles
9. Actively participating in the development and delivery of MSDI strategies to stimulate interdisciplinary and multi-faculty research; and enhance the impact of Monash University's sustainable development research and education
10. Supervision of the program of study for honours and postgraduate students engaged in research
11. Other duties as directed from time to time

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

Education/Qualifications

1. The appointee will have:
 - A doctoral qualification in the relevant discipline area or equivalent accreditation and standing, together with significant subsequent research experience and profile. This could include research into transformative and socially just circular economy transition pathways, policies, business models, governance, sustainable consumption, behaviour, and socio-technical analysis of material flows in areas such as consumer products and services, cities and construction, water, or food and land-use.

Knowledge and Skills

2. A deep understanding of integration expertise and inter- and transdisciplinary research environments, and an ability to interact and communicate with researchers, funders and partners as part of effective inter- and transdisciplinary research teams and an impact-oriented environment
3. A successful and proven track record of research into the circular economy evidenced by an outstanding contribution to the discipline area
4. Proven ability to engage with industry and/or government and to translate academic knowledge and skills outside of a University environment, demonstrated through policy and practice change or industry capability building
5. Highly developed skills of leadership, networking and management, with the proven ability to lead, mentor and develop staff
6. Very high-level interpersonal and communication skills with the proven ability to establish outstanding working relationships with colleagues and students, as well as evidence of sustained relationships with industry, business, government agencies, professional bodies and academic organisations
7. A significant record of publishing research relevant to the role in high quality international scientific journals with a demonstrated ability to generate research income, including from a diversity of funding sources, with demonstrated experience in overseeing the associated reporting and governance issues
8. Strong record of successful supervision of postgraduate research projects
9. Excellent organisational skills with the ability to work under pressure and to prioritise tasks to meet deadlines and project timelines
10. Strong work ethic and commitment to team work, and ability to work both independently and a demonstrated capacity to work collaboratively as a member of a team

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.