

Position Description

Research only – Postdoctoral Research Officer

Position No:	560731
Department:	John Richards Centre for Rural Ageing Research
School:	La Trobe Rural Health School
Campus/Location:	Location independent (in one of regional campuses)
Classification:	Level A – Research Officer
Employment Type:	Full time (1.0EFT) or part-time (0.8 EFT by negotiation); Fixed term until 30 June 2022.
Position Supervisor:	Dr Tshepo Rasekaba
Number:	428665
Other Benefits:	http://www.latrobe.edu.au/jobs/working/benefits

Further information about:

La Trobe University - <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/about>

La Trobe Rural Health School – <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/rural-health-school>

John Richards Centre for Rural Ageing Research – <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/jrc>

For enquiries only contact:

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Position Description

Level A – Postdoctoral Research Officer

A Level A research only academic is expected to contribute towards the research effort of the institution and to develop their research expertise through the pursuit of defined projects relevant to the particular field of research.

Position Context

The JRC was established in 2007 with funding from John Richards OAM, Department of Health and Human Services Victoria and La Trobe University. In collaboration with external and other stakeholders, the John Richards Centre (JRC) undertakes an interdisciplinary rural ageing and aged program of research in the following key areas:

- Health services and aged care
- Ageing in place
- Workforce
- Technology

The JRC multidisciplinary team comprises of 16 staff and 7 research higher degree students across La Trobe University campuses. All JRC research projects and research team are funded through external competitive funding, government or philanthropy.

In this role, the incumbent will assist JRC senior researchers to undertake qualitative and quantitative research and evaluation on current and future key projects including:

- SportAus Better Ageing Grants Program 2018 Loddon Mallee Move It (LMR Move IT)
- Western Victoria Primary Health Network (WVPHN) after hours co-design projects
- Rural health service and aged care research

The LMR Move it project is funded under SportAus Better Ageing funding initiative which seeks to increase physical activity participation to improve the wellbeing of older Australians and combat chronic disease. The LMR move It project involves programs across 10 shires in the Loddon and Mallee region. The WVPHN After Hours Co-design Project evaluation is a collaboration between Western Victoria Primary Health Network and the JRC. WVPHN has procured services for after hours primary care aimed at improving access to after hours primary care services and increasing efficiency and effectiveness of these services. In both projects the incumbent will assist with data collection and data management, data analysis and collation of data for ongoing progress and milestone reporting, including the final project reports and/or journal manuscript(s). LMR Move It is expected to be completed by mid-2021, whereas the WVPHN project is expected to conclude in June 2022.

Additionally, the incumbent will contribute towards or lead the development of new rural health service and aged care research projects. Projects are in the pipeline for 2021.

Working under supervision of a Research Fellow, the incumbent will be based at one of La Trobe Rural Health School campuses (Bendigo, Albury-Wodonga, Mildura or Shepparton) and be involved in a range of data collection, analysis, and reporting activities across all campuses. The incumbent will be expected to provide other research and administrative support to the JRC team as required.

Duties at this level may include:

- Conduct and publish, or otherwise disseminate high quality and/or high impact research/scholarly activities under limited supervision either independently or as part of a team.
- Assist in obtaining research funding from external sources.
- Participate in professional activities including presentations at conferences and seminars in field of expertise.

- Co-supervise postgraduate and higher degree research students.
- Attendance at meetings associated with research or the work of the unit to which the research is connected and/or at Departmental or School meetings and/or membership of a limited number of committees.
- Acquire and interpret research data and results. Run analyses and tests using specified and agreed techniques and models. Contribute to the development of techniques, models and methods.
- Contribute to and uphold a robust and ambitious research culture.
- Undertake administrative functions primarily connected with the area of research.
- Undertake other duties commensurate with the classification and scope of the position as required by the JRC Director.

Key Selection Criteria

- Completion of a Bachelor's degree in the relevant discipline and completion of a PhD by research in study relevant to discipline or professional area.
- Demonstrated experience in both quantitative and qualitative research methods, program evaluation, human research ethics submission, the analysis and modelling of data, including the capacity to integrate data from a range of sources and of uneven quality.
- A record of contribution to peer review publications, conference papers and reports, or professional or technical contributions which provide evidence of research potential.
- Attention to detail and good time-management skills to manage concurrent projects and competing demands.
- Excellence ability to work effectively under limited supervision or independently.
- Demonstrated high level of self-motivation and personal management skills.
- Effective oral and written communication skills, including the ability to interact effectively with older people and key stakeholders from a diverse range of backgrounds.
- Demonstrated understanding or experience in rural and regional policies, priorities, and emerging issues pertinent to health and aged care services research for older people
- Demonstrated experience or evidence of successful grants or tender submissions
- Demonstrated ability to work as a member of a team in a cooperative and collegial manner.
- Hold a valid driver's licence and be willing to travel in regional and rural areas.
- Demonstrated proficiency with online research platforms and software including EndNote, NVivo, SPSS, STATA, research ethics portal, trials registry, etc.

Other relevant information:

- The position description is indicative of the initial expectation of the role and subject to changes to University goals and priorities, activities or focus of the job.

Essential Compliance Requirements

To hold this La Trobe University position, the occupant must:

- hold, or be willing to undertake and pass, a Victorian Working With Children Check; AND
- take personal accountability to comply with all University policies, procedures and legislative or regulatory obligations; including but not limited to TEQSA and the Higher Education Threshold Standards.

Position Flexibility

La Trobe University is committed to providing a diverse, inclusive and respectful working environment for all staff. We offer flexible work arrangements that can assist you in balancing your work and other responsibilities.

La Trobe Cultural Qualities

Our cultural qualities underpin everything we do. As we work towards realising the strategic goals of the University we strive to work in a way which is aligned to our four cultural qualities:

- We are **Connected**: We connect to the world outside — the students and communities we serve, both locally and globally.
- We are **Innovative**: We tackle the big issues of our time to transform the lives of our students and society.
- We are **Accountable**: We strive for excellence in everything we do. We hold each other and ourselves to account, and work to the highest standard.
- We **Care**: We care about what we do and why we do it. We believe in the power of education and research to transform lives and global society. We care about being the difference in the lives of our students and communities.

For Human Resource Use Only

Initials: Date: