

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

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<b>Position Title:</b>	Associate Professor in Optometry and Vision Science
<b>Business Unit:</b>	Faculty of Health
<b>Appointment Level:</b>	Academic Level D – Education/Research focused
<b>Reporting To:</b>	Discipline Lead, Optometry
<b>Number of Direct Reports:</b>	Nil
<b>Delegation Band:</b>	
<b>Position Number:</b>	

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## THE UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA

The University of Canberra is a young University anchored in the national capital and works with government, business, and industry to serve our communities and nation. The University of Canberra challenges the status quo; always pursuing better ways to teach, learn, research, and add value – locally and internationally.

Our purpose is to provide education which offers high quality transformative experiences; to engage in research which makes a difference to the world around us; and to contribute to the building of just, prosperous, healthy, and sustainable communities.

The University of Canberra has recently established its long-term ambitions through its new decadal strategy: *Connected*. Through its three objectives (Connected to Canberra, Connected for life and Connected UC), the University of Canberra aims to build sustainable communities through deep collaborations that are locally focused and globally relevant, partner for life with our students to shape our economic, social and cultural futures and deliver an outstanding, digitally connected experience that removes barriers to accessing higher education.

## OUR PURPOSE AND VALUES

Our [purpose and values](#) are the heart of this university. They describe our core identity: who we are and how we behave at the University of Canberra. They were developed by our people for our people.

## GALAMBANY

Together we work to empower, connect and share knowledge with our people, cultures and places



## BUSINESS UNIT OVERVIEW

The Faculty of Health comprises three Schools, covering a number of disciplines including Nursing, Midwifery, Sport and Exercise Science, Physiotherapy, Nutrition and Dietetics, Pharmacy, Public Health, Psychology, Counselling, Social Work, Medical Radiation Science, Diagnostic Pathology, Occupational Therapy, Optometry and Speech Pathology. It is the home for the Health Research Institute/Research Institute for Sport and Exercise and the Nursing and Midwifery Research Centre – SYNERGY, a partnership between University of Canberra and ACT Health. In addition, Health also plays a leading role in relation to the development of the University's Health Precinct.

The Faculty has a strong and collegiate focus on collaboration among the disciplines, including several cross-disciplinary courses. Students gain supervised professional experience as part of their academic program and on completion of their degrees our graduates are ready for immediate entry to their profession. We are proud of our work-ready and future ready graduates.

Staff are committed to making significant contributions to the advancement of knowledge in their professions, and to contributing to basic, applied and clinical fields of research. The research of the Faculty of Health has grown rapidly in recent years, with fourfold increase in papers, higher degree graduates and research funding since 2008.

## HEALTH SCIENCES

The School of Health Sciences is focused on the discipline areas of Optometry, Medical Radiation Science, Diagnostic Pathology, Pharmacy, Psychology and Counselling. These disciplines offer opportunities to develop a distinctive research and learning environment. The School has a culture of innovation and excellence in teaching, as well as a world standard research performance and culture.

## POSITION PURPOSE

As an Associate Professor at the University of Canberra you will be expected to contribute to the scholarly and collegial community within your discipline, School, Faculty and beyond, with the flexibility and willingness to take new challenges when opportunities arise. You will report to the Head of Discipline and maintain excellent working relationships with colleagues at the Faculty and University levels.

You will be expected to make significant, high quality contributions to the teaching and research activities. You will be expected to develop an active scholarship of learning and teaching or research program, including seeking funding, conducting research, and publishing. You will be committed to student learning, through the coordination and delivery of units, and supervision of honours, masters, and PhD-level research projects. As an innovative teacher and active researcher, you will develop links with relevant domestic and international stakeholders and industry in your Discipline.

This position will contribute to curriculum development and delivery in a team-based environment. The position will also foster excellence in student experience and provide student support.

This is an exceptional opportunity to pursue scholarly advances in vision science and optometry and to contribute to the growth of optometry in one of the Times Higher Education Top 20 Young Universities of the World.

## PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

The occupant of this position will be required to:

1. Contribute to research-led teaching within the Faculty, including lectures, seminars, tutorials, practical classes, workshops and stakeholder CPD evenings.
2. Undertake Unit and Course coordination as required;
3. Promote and support excellence in disciplinary and interdisciplinary activities/scholarship;
4. Develop and maintain relationships with key external and professional stakeholders;
5. Collaboratively develop curricula with Optometry colleagues;
6. Ensure curricula meets accreditation requirements;
7. Design and deliver authentic, innovative assessments;
8. Provide student support and guidance;
9. Undertake continual professional development in education innovation;
10. Engage in and further their track record in collaborative, multidisciplinary research through publications and grants;
11. Attract higher degree research students and provide high quality research supervision to postgraduate and higher degree research students;
12. Provide leadership in teaching and/or research within the Discipline and Faculty.
13. Other duties appropriate to this level as required as directed by the Head of Discipline.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. PhD in optometry or a related field
2. Registration with AHPRA as an optometrist in Australia (desirable);
3. Endorsement to prescribe ocular therapeutic drugs in Australia (desirable);
4. Previous teaching and/or expertise in optometry and vision science, especially optics, low vision, binocular vision, environmental optometry;
5. Capacity and commitment to contribute to traditional and flexible modes of academic program development and delivery, including potentially on-line;
6. Demonstrated track record in research with outcomes of high quality and high impact, including publications and grants;
7. Experience in recruiting and supervising higher degree research students;
8. Experience in mentoring junior academics;
9. Demonstrated ability to interact with the profession and industry and attract funding.

## KEY CAPABILITIES

Key Capabilities	Descriptors
1. Leadership	<p>1.1 Proactively addresses challenging issues and takes responsibility for seeing issues through. Assist team members to recognise barriers and overcome them.</p> <p>1.2 Connects the University Strategic Plan with the Portfolio and reinforces connections with other staff.</p> <p>1.3 Builds and communicates a clear and compelling path for others to choose to be committed and engaged.</p> <p>1.4 Champions and role models effective change while working to engage and enthuse others to embrace a vision of change.</p>
2. Effective Communication	<p>2.1 Adjusts message and delivery appropriate to audience.</p> <p>2.2 Listens to others and effectively communicates ideas.</p> <p>2.3 Produces accurate and effective information in a timely and efficient manner.</p> <p>2.4 Influences and negotiates persuasively.</p>
3. Collaboration	<p>3.1 Creates opportunities for communities of work colleagues.</p> <p>3.2 Looks beyond self and immediate team to add value to the whole University.</p> <p>3.3 Develops relationships with external parties. Seeks and acts on opportunities to connect external parties and partners to the University.</p>
4. Delivers results	<p>4.1 Delivers on agreed outcomes and escalates issues as appropriate.</p> <p>4.2 Identifies opportunities to improve processes and takes opportunities to problem solve to deliver outcomes.</p> <p>4.3 Responds effectively to changing circumstances and prioritises.</p>
5. Business Acumen	<p>5.1 Understands the purpose of own position and how this contributes to the objectives of the University.</p> <p>5.2 Manages resources effectively.</p> <p>5.3 Understands the commercial context the University operates in.</p>
6. Service	<p>6.1 Delivers seamless customer focused service underpinned by simplified and efficient processes.</p> <p>6.2 Understands and anticipates the needs of our students and partners and can convert these into commercial outcomes.</p>
7. Digital Literacy and Innovation	<p>7.1 Demonstrates the ability to work fluently across a range of tools platforms and applications to achieve complex tasks.</p> <p>7.2 Demonstrates the capacity to adopt and develop new practices with digital technology in different settings; to use digital technologies in developing new ideas, projects, and opportunities.</p> <p>7.3 Incorporates digital literacy skills into own learning and the learning of others e.g., students, peers, supervisees.</p> <p>7.4 Appreciates the legal, ethical and security guidelines in the management, access and use of data.</p>

**While at work, you must take reasonable care that your actions or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons. This includes:**

- comply, so far as you are reasonably able, with any reasonable instruction that is given by the University to comply with the WHS Legislation
- cooperate with any reasonable policy or procedure of the University relating to health or safety at the workplace that has been notified to workers
- assume any additional duties as outlined in the WHS Procedure: Resources, Responsibility and Accountability

**Note:** This position requires a skill level that assumes knowledge or training equivalent to graduate qualifications, or extensive relevant experience, or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training.