Position Description

Postdoctoral Fellow

UNSW is currently implementing a ten-year strategy to 2025 and our ambition for the next decade is nothing less than to establish UNSW as Australia’s global university. We aspire to this in the belief that a great university, which is a global leader in discovery, innovation, impact, education and thought leadership, can make an enormous difference to the lives of people in Australia and around the world.

Following extensive consultation in 2015, we identified three strategic priority areas. Firstly, a drive for academic excellence in research and education. Universities are often classified as ‘research intensive’ or ‘teaching intensive’. UNSW is proud to be an exemplar of both. We are amongst a limited group of universities worldwide capable of delivering research excellence alongside the highest quality education on a large scale. Secondly, a passion for social engagement, which improves lives through advancing equality, diversity, open debate and economic progress. Thirdly, a commitment to achieving global impact through sharing our capability in research and education in the highest quality partnerships with institutions in both developed and emerging societies. We regard the interplay of academic excellence, social engagement and global impact as the hallmarks of a great forward-looking 21st century university.

To achieve this ambition, we are attracting the very best academic and professional staff to play leadership roles in our organisation.

VALUES IN ACTION: OUR UNSW BEHAVIOURS

UNSW recognises the role of employees in driving a high-performance culture. The behavioural expectations for UNSW are below.

Delivers high performance and demonstrates service excellence.

Thinks creatively and develops new ways of working. Initiates and embraces change.

Works effectively within and across teams. Builds relationships with internal and external stakeholders to deliver on outcomes.

Values individual differences and contributions of all people and promotes inclusion.

Treats others with dignity and empathy. Communicates with integrity and openness.
OVERVIEW OF RELEVANT AREA AND POSITION SUMMARY

The School of Psychology is one of the largest and most prestigious schools in Australia. The School is located in the Faculty of Science and has approximately 50 full time members of academic staff, 15 general staff and an operating budget of over $12M. The School administers 3- and 4-year undergraduate professional degrees (BPyschSc and BPsych) as well as offering undergraduate courses that are available to students in many of the degree programs offered by the University. Undergraduate enrolments are over 1000 EFTSLs including approximately 70 Honours students. At the postgraduate level, the School offers bridging UG, PhD and MSc degrees as well as 2-year professional Masters degrees and combined PhD/Masters degrees in Clinical and Forensic Psychology. Approximately 60 students are enrolled in the professional Masters programs and over 100 in postgraduate research programs. The School is very active in research, with most staff holding external research funding. The School has extensive laboratory facilities for both research and teaching, and receives almost $15M per annum in competitive research funding. For further information about the School, please visit https://www.psy.unsw.edu.au/

The role of Postdoctoral Fellow will undertake research on cognitive resilience utilising a range of methodologies, using existing data, new online data collection and neuroimaging.

The role of Postdoctoral Fellow reports to Professor Kaarin Anstey and has no direct reports.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Specific responsibilities for this role include:

- Contribute to the development of new studies on cognitive resilience, including data synthesis projects and data collection.
- Contribute to the writing of scientific papers and reports for international journals and progress reporting to other researchers and industry partners in the broad area of cognitive ageing and cognitive health.
- Undertake multivariate statistical analysis of existing datasets.
- Assist with supervision of honours students and postgraduate students.
- Contribute to team meetings, workshops and stakeholder engagement.
- Assist with the coordination of research activities and actively contribute to research outputs to meet project milestones.
- Contribute to the preparation of research proposal submissions to funding bodies and actively seek collaboration with industry partners as appropriate.
- Participate in and/or present at conferences and/or workshops relevant to the project as required.
- Cooperate with all health and safety policies and procedures of the university and take all reasonable care to ensure that your actions or omissions do not impact on the health and safety of yourself or others.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- PhD (or soon to be awarded) in Psychology or equivalent field.
- Demonstrated ability to conduct independent research with limited supervision.
- Demonstrated experience in cognitive or brain ageing or cognitive development in the second half of the life-course.
- Demonstrated track record of publications and conference presentations relative to opportunity.
• Demonstrated ability to work in a team, collaborate across disciplines and build effective relationships.
• Strong interpersonal skills with demonstrated ability to communicate and interact with a diverse range of stakeholders and students.
• Knowledge of health and safety responsibilities and commitment to attending relevant health and safety training.

It is not the intention of the position description to limit the scope or accountabilities of the position but to highlight the most important aspects of the position. The aspects mentioned above may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the role.