POSITION DESCRIPTION

Research Fellow  
Centre for Social Research in Health (CSRH)

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<tr>
<th>Position Level</th>
<th>Level B</th>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty/ Division</td>
<td>Arts, Architecture &amp; Design</td>
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<td>Position Number</td>
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<td>Original document creation</td>
<td>30/11/2020</td>
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Position Summary

The Centre for Social Research in Health (CSRH) is based in the Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture at UNSW Sydney. The Centre has made major contributions to Australia’s response to hepatitis C, HIV and sexual health. With 34 staff (16 academic staff, 10 research officers and 8 professional staff shared jointly with the Social Policy Research Centre), the Centre is highly regarded for the quality of the research undertaken, its multidisciplinary approach, and its engagement with communities most affected by blood borne viruses. The work of the Centre informs policy and practice both nationally and internationally.

The program of work

This Research Fellow position links to a dynamic and energetic research program at the Centre for Social Research in Health. Under the leadership of Professor Tim Rhodes and Dr Kari Lancaster, the ‘Evidence-Making Intervention’ research program undertakes qualitative and ethnographic research to explore: (a) the translation and implementation of health interventions and technologies into practice, and (b) the use and making of evidence as part of this process. This innovative program brings ideas from science and technology studies (STS) and theories of performativity into conversation with public health to extend the interdisciplinary reach of implementation science, attending to the emergent and unanticipated effects of implementations and evidence-making practices. This program is based at CSRH but operates through partnership with institutes, centres and scientists engaged in clinical, trials and interventions research across UNSW.

The project

One of the new projects for 2021 is an Australian Research Council (ARC) funded Discovery Project, ‘Evidence-making and implementing interventions in a viral elimination era’ (led by Dr Kari Lancaster and Professor Tim Rhodes, with colleagues Professor Carla Treloar, Professor Martin Holt and Professor Marsha Rosengarten). The
The project is a critical sociological study of health technology implementation. The project will develop an approach which understands how technologies and their variable effects are made-up differently according to their local practices of implementation, and critically reflect on implementation science as a practice of ‘evidence-making’. Our empirical case study for this work is the implementation of interventions to achieve the elimination of hepatitis C and HIV, using qualitative and ethnographic methods.

The Research Fellow position requires expertise in managing social research projects and qualitative methods, and expertise in critical social science and applying social theory in the field of health (for example, science and technology studies, post structural theory, feminist science studies, and more-than-human approaches).

The Research Fellow will work with Dr Kari Lancaster and Professor Tim Rhodes to support the ‘Evidence-Making Intervention’ program of work, especially through project management of the Discovery Project, managing research ethics, qualitative data generation, management and analysis of research materials, leading and co-authoring articles for publication in scholarly journals, assisting with the development of proposals for external grant funding, assistance with event organisation, and working with partners.

The Research Fellow will also make an active contribution to the ‘Evidence-Making Intervention’ program through collaboration with linked UNSW staff and PhD students, and by extension, will contribute to the development of critical social science within the Faculty.

Reporting Relationships

This role will report to program leads, Dr Kari Lancaster and Professor Tim Rhodes, and ultimately to the Deputy Director, SPRC and CSRH. This role has no direct reports.

Accountabilities

Specific accountabilities for this role include:

- Conduct research as directed within the ‘Evidence-Making Intervention’ program of work
- Work closely with research partners and the investigator team
- Undertake qualitative data generation through interviews, ethnography and other methods as required
- Undertake theory-informed data analysis
- Contribute substantially to publications by submission and successful publication of articles in peer-reviewed journals (both as lead author and co-author)
- Undertake and synthesise literature reviews, including pertaining to qualitative methods and theory-informed social research in health
- Contribute to the ‘Evidence-Making Intervention’ program of work by assisting with the preparation, development, and submission of external research grant applications and tender proposals in the field of critical social science applied to health
- Day-to-day project management, including of research ethics and governance, and data management
- Assist with the organisation of events/seminars, project dissemination and profile
- Undertake such other duties as are requested by Dr Kari Lancaster and Professor Tim Rhodes
- Ensure all UNSW, Faculty and Centre policies, procedures and codes of practice are adhered to at all times
• Align with and actively demonstrate the UNSW Values in Action: Our Behaviours and the UNSW Code of Conduct.

• 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.

Skills and Experience

• PhD (or equivalent) and relevant research experience in a social science discipline (e.g. sociology, anthropology, science and technology studies), with a preference for health sociology

• Demonstrated experience in undertaking high-quality qualitative or ethnographic research, including data analysis, ideally in the field of health (and especially infectious diseases)

• Demonstrated experience of lead-authored peer-reviewed publication engaging with social theory informed approaches (sociology, anthropology, science and technology studies, feminist science studies, poststructuralism), ideally in the field of health

• Demonstrated project management and research administration skills

• Demonstrated capacity for self-directed data generation and analysis

• Demonstrated ability to work to agreed timelines

• Demonstrated excellent interpersonal and communication skills, including the ability to work collaboratively with academics from other disciplines and communicate findings to policymakers or practitioners

• An understanding of and commitment to UNSW’s aims, objectives and values in action, together with relevant policies and guidelines.

• Knowledge of health and safety responsibilities and commitment to attending relevant health and safety training

Pre-Employment Checks Required for this Position

• Verification of academic qualifications

About this document

This Position Description outlines the objectives, desired outcomes, key responsibilities, accountabilities, required skills, experience and desired behaviours required to successfully perform the role.

This template is not intended to limit the scope or accountabilities of the position. Characteristics of the position may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the role.