Position Summary

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow (Level A) will be responsible for the conduct of experiments and analysis of data related to a program on gene therapy in vascular biology and cardiovascular research in Professor Khachigian’s research group. The incumbent will be responsible for taking a management role in this project, identifying opportunities for collaboration and funding and assisting the broader team with other research related duties.

The project involves a range of molecular and cellular biology techniques, including but not restricted to plasmid cloning or purification, transfection analysis, mRNA expression analysis, PCR, Western blotting, siRNA, cell culture, proliferation and migration studies, and possibly animal models.

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will report to the Professor.

Accountabilities

Specific accountabilities for this role include:

- Support to develop and perform in vitro and in vivo experiments in molecular biology, gene expression, gene cloning, plasmid construction, adenovirus or AAV construction, propagation and expression.
- Contribute independently or as a team member in the management of allocated research projects, data integrity, data analysis (including statistical) and reporting of results.
• Conduct research (as per the norms of the discipline) and enable research teams to create scholarly output that is recognised by peers.

• Undertake specific research project/s under the guidance of Professor Khachigian and work collaboratively in a team environment.

• Undertake discipline-appropriate research activities, e.g. drafting manuscripts, literature reviews, ordering consumables, proofreading, data gathering and/or recording of results using appropriate research methods.

• Participate in and/or present at regular work-in-progress meetings of the lab, as well as at conferences and/or workshops relevant to the project as required.

• Assist with preparing ethics submissions (including animal ethics approvals) and annual reports, including budgets.

• Train staff on different equipment and act as custodian of that equipment.

• Analyse, interpret, and compile data for regular presentation and discussion at meetings with the project supervisors.

• Perform administrative duties as required associated with the function of the research group.

• Assist with the supervision of research students in the research area where required.

• Strictly comply with UNSW and laboratory codes, policies and procedures, including all policies in relation to animal ethics, genetically-modified organism dealings, experimental practice, data management and storage.

• 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

• A PhD in a related discipline, and/or relevant work experience.

• Proven commitment to proactively keeping up to date with discipline knowledge and developments.

• Demonstrated ability to undertake high quality academic research and conduct independent research with limited supervision.

• 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.

• Evidence of highly developed interpersonal skills.

• Demonstrated ability to communicate and interact with a diverse range of stakeholders and students.
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.

Desirable

Demonstrated expertise and practical experience in cell biology, tissue culture and/or animal surgery using adenoviral or AAV vectors would be a distinct advantage

Pre-employment checks required for this position

• Verification of qualifications
• Medical check and assessment
• Criminal record check

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.