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

UNSW Medicine is a national leader in learning, teaching and research, with close affiliations to a number of Australia’s finest hospitals, research institutes and health care organisations. With a strong presence at UNSW Kensington campus, the faculty have staff and students in teaching hospitals in Sydney as well as regional and rural areas of NSW including Albury/Wodonga, Wagga Wagga, Coffs Harbour and Port Macquarie.

The Black Dog Institute is a Medical Research Institute affiliated with UNSW Sydney, and a global leader in translational mental health research. We harness the latest technology and other tools to quickly turn our world-class research findings into clinical services, education and e-health products that improve the lives of people with mental illness and the wider community.

This role is based in the Workplace Mental Health Research Team, which is led by A/Prof Samuel Harvey. The Workplace Mental Health Research Team was established in 2012 and is now Australia’s largest and most influential research program focused on the links between work and mental health. The team consists of 18 members, including Post-doctoral Fellows, Research Officers, Research Assistants and PhD students.

The Postdoctoral Fellow be responsible for development, implementation, and evaluation of a digital health intervention to provide mental health support for first responders and their families affected by 2020 bushfires. This will form one part of a larger program of research and implementation into mental health care for this population. The incumbent will be responsible for analysis and modelling of experimental data / facilitate research related to this larger program of research. The incumbent will be responsible for leading the research related activities relating to the tool development and rollout of this product, identifying opportunities for collaboration and funding and assisting the broader team with other research related duties.

The role of Postdoctoral Fellow will report to the Associate Professor and has one direct report.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Specific responsibilities for this role include:

- Leadership in the management of allocated research projects, including managing ethics submissions, reporting to funding body, data integrity, analysis (including statistical) and reporting of results
- Working with the broader project team and IT experts to develop two different digital mental health tools; a website that will provide information and tailored screening and a new smartphone app to deliver self-guided treatment
- Provide research leadership in developing and implementing a cohort study of fire fighters involved in the 2020 bushfires
- Assist in the preparation of manuscripts, abstracts, posters and grant/fellowship applications as appropriate
- Liaise with the study coordinators and stakeholders including government agencies, researchers and collaborators of the various projects
- Consult with staff on the preparation of grant applications and reports for publication, progress and annual reports for projects and grants and literature searches
- Supervise and train staff and Honours, PhD or ILP students
- Prepare ethics submissions and annual reports, including budgets and consent forms
- Conduct data analysis for publications, and oversee data management for key projects
- Assist in course administration and contribute to teaching tutorials as required
- Perform other duties as requested by your supervisor
• Ensure hazards and risks are identified and controlled for tasks, projects and activities that pose a health and safety risk within your area of responsibility.

SELECTION CRITERIA

• PhD in psychology/psychiatry/public health or related field, and/or an equivalent level of knowledge gained through any other combination of education, training and/or and experience

• An excellent academic track record with demonstrated and proven experience in the use of statistical packages in order to perform statistical procedures commonly used in the analysis of data

• A track record in writing scientific manuscripts as well as a proven research and publication record in academic journals in relevant area or field, including the ability or potential to attract external research funding

• Excellent oral and written communication skills and the ability to liaise effectively with all levels of staff, students, management, collaborators and general public

• Demonstrated experience in managing complex research projects, including ability to meet project requirements and deadlines

• Experience in student and technical staff supervision or teaching

• Strong organisation skills and demonstrated ability to prioritise workload and meet strict deadlines

• Experience with digital health technologies, implementation, and/or clinical trials, non-essential but preferred

• Ability and capacity to implement required UNSW health and safety policies and procedures.

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.