Position Description

Clinical Research Fellow

Position Number: 00085393
Position Title: Clinical Research Fellow
Date Written: June 2020

Faculty / Division: UNSW Medicine
School / Unit: South West Sydney Clinical School
Position Level: Level B

ORGANISATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

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.

- Demonstrates Excellence
  - Delivers high performance and demonstrates service excellence.

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

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

- Embraces Diversity
  - Values individual differences and contributions of all people and promotes inclusion.

- Displays Respect
  - 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.

Sydney Brain Centre @ UNSW (SBC)

Research in stroke and neuroscience is utterly reliant on developing and using increasingly complex imaging data. The role requires a high-level academic specialist in imaging medicine.

We are establishing a Stroke and Neuroscience research team based at South Western Sydney Clinical School. The team will be heavily focused on brain imaging research. The Brain Imaging Laboratory Manager will be responsible for the academic oversight of the development and implementation of brain imaging research projects, with a focus on clinical trials, but also observational studies designed to examine mechanisms of neurological disease. A key focus will be to provide research expertise around analysis of both MR and CT brain imaging. This would ideally be a Neurology trainee in final stages of training who would be front-line in trial recruitment at Liverpool, Campbelltown, and the new Sydney Stroke Ambulance. Essentially to make South-Western Sydney Health a major stroke and neuroscience clinical trial hub.

The role of Clinical Research Fellow works closely with senior researchers and provide support across several ongoing projects in various areas of the research. The Clinical Research Fellow will drive research projects, support other students and researchers in the group and help define and drive new research directions aligned with the overall goals of the group and the Centre.

The role of Clinical Research Fellow reports to the Head of SBC and has no direct reports.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Specific responsibilities for this role include:

• Play a major role in all aspects of major research projects of the SBC
• Lead the preparation, research analysis, and produce/contribute to conference abstracts and publications for submission to peer-reviewed journals
• Publish and present research results at academic/industry national and international conferences
• Provide scholarly supervision and mentor undergraduate, honours level and post graduate research students and actively provide guidance on research methods
• Design develop and lead research ensuring all research is conducted to methodological and ethical standards
• Formulate study design, programmes, and implementation timelines
• Collaborate effectively and maintain strong relationships with relevant researchers within the institution, stakeholders and policy makers and contribute to the teaching program within the field of research expertise
• Develop proposals for national competitive research grant funding
• Complete administrative functions primarily connected to area of research
• Play a role in the clinical service at the Department of Neurology at Liverpool hospital which will include participation in the Acute Stroke/Neurology roster as a Clinical Fellow
• 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

• Doctoral or master’s qualification or equivalent accreditation and standing
• Be an advanced physician trainee in Neurology or have recently completed Advanced Training in Neurology
• Proven track record in publishing scientific research papers in stroke/neuroscience and demonstrated experience in grant writing and ethics submissions
• Excellent oral and written communication skills, attention to detail and the ability to liaise effectively with all levels of staff, students, management, collaborators, and members of the public with relevant data analysis skills
• Proven ability in working effectively as a member of a multidisciplinary team and in supervising technical staff and students
• Demonstrated experience in relevant industry and/or in establishing/maintaining research partnerships with industry
• 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.