



Position Description

Lecturer – Design Thinking

Position Number: 00068346
Position Title: Lecturer – Design Thinking
Date Written: March 2019

Faculty / Division: Engineering
School / Unit: Design Next Program Centre
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.



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 offers a number of design programs and courses, but these go under many names and disciplines. Many of the challenges currently facing society require cross-disciplinary solutions and collaborative problem-solving.

UNSW's answer to this problem is 'Design Next'. It is a UNSW strategic initiative created to transform education so that UNSW graduates will be design-focused. It coordinates and refines existing design-oriented courses, and also creates new courses. It also catalyzes research, innovation and social engagement activities to support these changes.

The Design Nxt initiative is hosted by the Faculty of Engineering at UNSW but connects and currently consists of three other faculties, Faculty of Art & Design, Faculty of Built Environment and UNSW Business School. Combined, these faculties represent over 35,000 students.

The purpose of this role is to conduct independent research and deliver excellent teaching in the area of design and support the Director of Design Next in his mission to change the university through design.

The Lecturer – Design Thinking will act as liaison mainly to UNSW Business School and the business parts of the UNSW design ecosystem. The Lecturer will specifically coordinate design-based teaching in the area of design thinking; help to create multidisciplinary classes with other faculties; and conduct research and innovation activities that support these tasks. The Lecturer will be allocated teaching, coordination of teaching, developing teaching together with Design Next team, its director, and its faculties. The Lecture will also conduct independent research in their area of expertise and be engaged in innovation activities of UNSW.

A Lecturer (level B academic) is expected to carry out activities to develop their scholarly research and professional activities both nationally and internationally and to contribute significantly to achieving the teaching and service missions of the Design Next Program and Faculty.

The role of position reports to the Director of Design Next Program Centre, and has nil direct reports.

RESPONSIBILITIES

It is expected that the appointee will progress on a continual satisfactory and upward trajectory in their performance and specific performance expectations will be set individually with the Director/Supervisor.

Specific responsibilities for the role of **Lecturer** (Level B) include (but not limited to):

- Conduct research of high quality and high impact including attainment of competitive government and industry research funding and publication of outcomes in high quality research outlets.
- Deliver high quality teaching and student experience utilising sound pedagogical methodologies and innovative technologies and from time to time, deliver teaching across a broad engineering discipline.
- High quality supervision of major honours and postgraduate research projects.
- Actively engage with industry and the community to develop significant productive relationships, attract industry funding and participate in professional activities.

- Work collaboratively with peers across the Design Next Program, Faculty and UNSW in all aspects of academic endeavour and contribute to mentoring of other staff.
- Involvement in broad administrative functions of the Design Next Program and/or University, coordination of subjects, attend departmental and/or faculty meetings, involvement in Open Days and recruitment activities and play a major role in planning and/or committee work or other responsibilities, as directed by the Director.
- 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

Applicants from industry and professional backgrounds should demonstrate their equivalent level of standing as demonstrated by professional experience.

Lecturer

- Masters or PhD from engineering, business, design disciplines (including but not limited to architecture, industrial design, etc.), or from other disciplines relevant to design
- Demonstrated track record in research with outcomes of high quality and high impact with clear evidence of the desire and ability to continually achieve research excellence as well as the capacity for research leadership.
- Demonstrated ability and willingness to deliver high quality and innovative teaching and student experience to both undergraduate and postgraduate students.
- A track record of significant involvement with the profession and/or industry.
- High level communication skills and ability to network effectively and interact with a diverse range of students and staff.
- Demonstrated ability to work in a team, collaborate across disciplines and build effective relationships.
- Willingness to undertake any compliance and supervisor training as required.
- Ability and capacity to implement required UNSW health and safety policies and procedures.

PRE EMPLOYMENT CHECKS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

Verification of qualifications

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.