



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE



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# The University of Melbourne The Elisabeth Murdoch Chair in Landscape Architecture

Candidate Information  
May 2017



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

Melbourne  
School of Design

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# The University of Melbourne

The University of Melbourne is a public-spirited institution that makes distinctive contributions to society in research, learning and teaching, and by engaging with communities, corporations and cultural organisations. Outstanding academics are at the heart of the University's teaching, research and engagement endeavours and their exceptional academic performance has placed The University of Melbourne amongst the world's top universities and at the forefront of higher education.

The University of Melbourne is Australia's leading research university, with research expenditure of approximately AU\$850 million and a global ranking of 33 in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings. Established in 1853, The University of Melbourne has been at the centre of learning in Australia for over 150 years. Today, it offers a vibrant and creative environment for its 6,500 members of staff and 47,000 students, of which approximately 12,000 are international students from more than 130 countries.

Its main campus (Parkville) is located just a few minutes from the city centre of Melbourne, considered to be Australia's cultural capital and voted by the Economist as the most liveable city in the world. The Parkville campus is recognised as the hub of Australia's premier knowledge precinct, comprising eight hospitals as well as numerous leading research institutes and knowledge-based industries.

The University is at the forefront of Australia's changing higher education system and offers a distinctive model of education known collectively as the Melbourne Curriculum. The educational model, designed for an outstanding experience for all students, was introduced in 2008 and is based on six broad undergraduate programs followed by a graduate professional degree, research higher degree or entry directly into employment. The emphasis on academic breadth as well as disciplinary depth in the new degrees ensures that graduates will have the capacity to succeed in a world where knowledge boundaries are shifting and



In moving to the new model, the University is also aligning itself with the best of emerging European and Asian practice and well-established North American traditions.

The Melbourne Curriculum combines academic breadth with disciplinary depth, repositions the University in increasingly globalised structures in Higher Education, and prepares its students to enter a world marked by rapid change where graduates must possess increasingly applicable knowledge, and flexible and adaptable skills, in order to succeed. Growing Esteem describes Melbourne's strategy to achieve its aspiration to be a public-spirited and internationally-engaged institution, highly regarded for making distinctive contributions to society in research and research training, learning and teaching, and engagement. [www.growingesteem.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.growingesteem.unimelb.edu.au)

## Living and working in Melbourne

The University of Melbourne is a fantastic worksite. Music, exhibitions, sporting facilities, libraries with amazing collections and excellent cafes as well as numerous services located on the Parkville campus.

Close by is the Melbourne Central Business District (CBD) accessible by public transport or a short walk.

## Geography

Melbourne is the capital city of Victoria, and is the second largest city in Australia. Melbourne is set around the shores of Port Phillip Bay. The City of Melbourne sits beside the Yarra River, around 5 kilometres from the Bay. The Greater Melbourne Metropolitan area is home to 4.6 million people from a wide range of cultural backgrounds (2016). Melbourne's metropolitan areas cover more than 9990 square kilometres.

The City of Melbourne covers the city centre and a number of inner-city suburbs, each of which has its own personality and character. For example, you can experience Greek culture from the Greek Quarter around Lonsdale Street, Vietnamese on Victoria Street, Italian on Lygon Street, Chinese in Chinatown and French on Collins Street. Parkville Campus is the main campus of The University of Melbourne located in Parkville, 1.7 kilometres north of the City of Melbourne.





# The University of Melbourne: the people

The University of Melbourne attracts staff and students of the highest caliber to work on its campuses.

Among the many scholars of international renown at Melbourne are winners of the Nobel Prize – Professor Elizabeth Blackburn (Physiology or Medicine), Professor Peter Doherty (Physiology and Medicine) and visiting eminent scholar Professor Sir James Mirrlees (Economic Science). Other distinguished scholars of high international repute include Professor Peter Singer who is a Laureate Professor in the Faculty of Arts; and Fellows of the Royal Society, Professors David Solomon and David Boger.

The University has a great track record for its scholars being recognised for their achievements at the highest level and for gaining research funds. In 2015, University of Melbourne researchers were successful in obtaining \$397million in funding, the highest in Australia, and in 2016, in excess of \$440million. In that were significant numbers of fellowship awards to outstanding early and mid-career researchers, including the prestigious

Australian Research Council Future Fellowships.

The success of the University's researchers in winning Future Fellowships highlights the University's ongoing commitment to the professional development of its early and mid-career research staff. The research they are doing will have real and strong benefits for the broader community and the world.

## Benefits

The University offers its staff more than just a job – offering them an opportunity to be part of a dynamic world class organization which provides its staff with exceptional benefits and support at every stage of their life and career. Benefits include:

- Working in a culturally inclusive environment;
- Engaging in an active and vibrant campus life;
- Support for staff at all stages of their career lifecycle;
- A focus on health and wellbeing;
- Competitive salary packages.

# The Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning

The Faculty is the leading educational and research institution in the Asia Pacific region addressing the design and realisation of inhabited environments.

The Faculty actively seeks to extend the linkages between education, research and practice in the built environment, and maintains excellent and extensive relationships with members of the built environment professions, government, professional associations and the wider community.

The Faculty has nearly 190 staff and approximately 3000 students, one third of whom are international. It is responsible for the University's undergraduate Bachelor of Design degree, and offers majors in architecture, landscape architecture, property, construction, and urban planning.

The Faculty's graduate school, the Melbourne School of Design teaches accredited masters courses across the professional disciplines of Architecture, Construction Management, Landscape Architecture, Property, Urban Design and Urban Planning.

The MSD is distinctive from its competitors in its aim to inspire learning through interdisciplinary reflection, and its integration of research, teaching, and practice around the implications of all forms of urbanisation. With opportunities to engage in advanced studio and seminar-based learning and research, MSD students develop new perspectives, critical reflection, and modes of action to address the environmental, social and aesthetic challenges in producing sustainable centres of habitation, locally and internationally. Students take part in field trips which examine the global context of habitable environments. The Faculty has an international reputation for excellence in research and research training and is a leader in built environment and urban research. Faculty staff are actively engaged in collaborations and partnerships

both locally and globally, to produce research that responds to major social, economic and environmental challenges, as well as fundamental research into the built environment in Australia and the Asian region. The Faculty's researchers address key issues, such as mitigation of natural disasters, climate change, sustainability, the future of cities, population growth and urban density; leading debate in many of these areas. The Faculty also contributes definitive knowledge and understanding of the history, conservation and heritage of the built and natural environment, built environment practice and management, urban morphology and design research. The Faculty draws its research strength in part from its capacity to work in the multidisciplinary frame of its various built environment disciplines, as well as with colleagues in health, engineering, education, history and social sciences.

Through the MSD, the Faculty provides the highest quality research training environment, attracting the best and brightest future researchers from around the world.

PhD and MPhil students have access to innovative professional development programs and generous funding support, along with excellent facilities and resources. MSD's PhD and MPhil graduates are well-rounded professionals, critical thinkers and future research leaders.

The Faculty has built strong research foundations by valuing and developing its people, rewarding excellence, and fostering a culture of enquiry, creativity and outstanding scholarship.

More information about ABP / MSD can be found at:  
<http://msd.unimelb.edu.au/>





# Position Summary

The Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning seeks to appoint the Elisabeth Murdoch Chair of Landscape Architecture to provide academic leadership and vision within the field of Landscape Architecture. The Faculty seeks a candidate with proven leadership qualities in developing excellence in others and in building a world class research and teaching program.

The Chair will contribute to the refinement and enhancement of student opportunities to build a world class Master of Landscape Architecture, and ensure a leading undergraduate pathway in landscape architecture through the Bachelor of Design.

The Chair will utilise their proven leadership qualities to develop excellence in others, through the supervision and mentoring of colleagues and leading by example to expand teaching and research capabilities. The Chair will work with senior colleagues to set directions for the Faculty's future in developing programs and initiatives which focus on multidisciplinary approaches taking advantage of the design research culture within the Faculty.

A key contribution of the Chair will be to influence and stimulate public debate and policy through engagement with local and international professional communities - furthering links with government, industry and the profession. The Chair will build upon a research program which has attracted substantial research and consultancy funding, and maintain a significant international profile in practice, publications and presentations.

The Elisabeth Murdoch Chair of Landscape Architecture will also represent the Faculty in the Landscape Architecture profession through regular engagement in public consultation around the potential futures of both Melbourne and Victoria.

The successful candidate will be required to adhere to the responsibilities of a Professor of the University and Faculty as outlined in the University Expectations of a Professor and Faculty Expectations of Academic staff. All Professors are members of the Academic Board of the University.

# Selection Criteria

## ESSENTIAL

The Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning is strongly committed to building a collaborative and supportive work environment to achieve high expectations. Leaders in the Faculty need to demonstrate a capacity to develop and support open communication based upon trust, respect and excellence.

The Elisabeth Murdoch Chair of Landscape Architecture will have attained recognition as an eminent authority in the discipline and achieved distinction at national and international levels as demonstrated through attainment of the specific criteria below:

- A distinguished career in research, policy and/or practice in the field of Landscape Architecture with a demonstrated passion for the importance of design practice.
- A PhD or equivalent qualifications complemented by a significant record of gaining substantial competitive research grants and/or design commissions, successfully delivering projects, and a strong record of academic publications and/or critically assessed projects and professional recognition.
- A record of success in teaching at university level.
- An ability to make a substantial contribution to theoretical work through design practice.
- The capacity to work collaboratively with colleagues both within and outside the University, with a track record in supervision and mentorship.
- A record of providing high level leadership in a dynamic academic environment, enabling a capacity to make a major contribution to the intellectual and organisational life of the Faculty and University.
- A demonstrated capacity to influence public policy and professional practice and to connect landscape architecture to related disciplines.
- A broad understanding of international contexts and current public policy debates in landscape architectural design.
- A proven capacity as a change agent with outstanding people skills. Demonstrated high level interpersonal skills and ability to motivate, persuade and negotiate.

## DESIRABLE

- Demonstrated expertise in undertaking the design of courses in landscape architectural design.
- Demonstrated success in research higher degree supervision.



# Key Responsibilities

The Elisabeth Murdoch Chair of Landscape Architecture contributes to the academic leadership of the Faculty through developing and sustaining a design culture; defining curriculum; establishing and enhancing links with practice, locally, regionally and internationally; mentoring staff in their delivery of design teaching and research; and demonstrating design research through practice and collaboration with other disciplines within the Faculty and University. The Chair is supportive of the strategic directions and management of the University and Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning through membership of relevant committees and leadership forums.

## RESEARCH

1. Pursuit of excellence in the broad field of landscape architecture through leadership of a design based research program with a national and international profile.
2. Continuing publication of the results of original research and other scholarly endeavours in high quality refereed journals, books, monographs, reports, refereed conference proceedings and other publications of high international standing; critical assessment of their projects in professional journals of high standing; a body of significant executed projects.
3. Successful pursuit of research funding through competitive grants and research consultancies.
4. Leadership in the development and growth of entrepreneurial research initiatives ensuring development and maintenance of research programs.

## TEACHING AND LEARNING

5. Contribution to the excellence of teaching in the Faculty at undergraduate and graduate levels by developing and delivering high-quality academic programs and subjects, promotion of studio teaching across disciplines and through supervision of higher degree research students.
6. Leadership in the design and delivery of teaching and learning programs of the highest quality creating an outstanding 'Melbourne Experience' for students.

## ENGAGEMENT

7. Contribution to the development of landscape architectural design policies and practices in the broader national sector, including through funded consultancy projects.
  8. Establishment and maintenance of national and international networks.
  9. Involvement in professional landscape architectural activities including liaison with industry and representative bodies.
- + Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) responsibilities



# Application Process

The Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning will be supported in this appointment process by the executive search firm Perrett Laver. Perrett Laver will support the selection committee in the discharge of its duties, both to assist in the assessment of candidates against the requirements for the role and identify the widest possible field of qualified candidates.

Applications should consist of a full curriculum vitae detailing academic and professional qualifications, full employment history and relevant achievements. CVs should be accompanied by a covering letter describing briefly how candidates meet the criteria outlined in the selection criteria, why the appointment is of interest and what they believe they can bring to the role.

Applicants should provide the names and contact details of at least three potential referees. These referees will not be approached without the consent of the applicant. The University of Melbourne reserves the right to choose not to fill this role.

Completed applications should be uploaded at [candidates.perrettlaver.com](https://candidates.perrettlaver.com) quoting reference 3007.

The deadline for applications:  
12:00 PM AEDT on Friday 23 June 2017

Initial queries may be directed in confidence to:  
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