

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning

Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Informal Urbanism

POSITION NO	0045684
CLASSIFICATION	Research Fellow 1 (Level A)
SALARY	\$69,148 – 93,830 pro-rata (*Level A PhD entry level \$87,415 p.a.)
SUPERANNUATION	Employer contribution of 9.5%
EMPLOYMENT TYPE	0.8 EFT fixed-term position available until 31 Dec 2020 Fixed term contract type: Research
OTHER BENEFITS	http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers/working/benefits
CURRENT OCCUPANT	New
HOW TO APPLY	Online applications are preferred. Go to http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers , select the relevant option ('Current Staff' or 'Prospective Staff'), then find the position by title or number.
CONTACT FOR ENQUIRIES ONLY	Name: Professor Kim Dovey Email: dovey@unimelb.edu.au Tel: +61 3 8344 7779 <i>Please do not send your application to this contact</i>

For information about working for the University of Melbourne, visit our websites:
about.unimelb.edu.au/careers
joining.unimelb.edu.au

Position Summary

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will have responsibility for research project development, publication and engagement on research projects conducted within the new Informal Urbanism Research Hub (*InfUr-*). The Hub will bring together a range of researchers and PhD students from all disciplines of the Faculty with a focus on self-organised urbanism across six overlapping topic areas: informal settlements, citizen-driven planning, informal trading, informal transport, tactical urbanism and informal architecture. The Hub will generate new knowledge on the role of urban informality in the creative production of urban spaces and codes of governance, by providing better understanding of the legitimacy, logic and resilient capacities embodied in self-organised urbanism. The Hub, led by Professor Kim Dovey and Dr Crystal Legacy is one of five research Hubs operating within the Faculty and is initially comprised of 17 academic members and a range of PostDocs and PhD students. The primary goals of the Hub are to build research funding and capacity within these fields, leading to global impact through both publication and engagement.

The Research Fellow will be expected to develop and work to a research plan in collaboration with Hub directors, on topics that range across the topic areas encompassed by the Hub. Responsibilities will include grant and manuscript writing, database development and administration support for the Hub Directors. The appointee will also be required to develop new research projects in collaboration with Hub members and industry partners. The appointee will actively participate in public engagement events to promote collaboration and build research capacity. They will also work to progress a policy agenda relevant to informal urbanism with relevant government departments and stakeholders.

1. Selection Criteria

1.1 ESSENTIAL

- ▶ A PhD degree in one of the following fields: urban design, urban planning, architecture, landscape architecture, geography or urban studies.
- ▶ Research capacity commensurate with opportunity, as demonstrated by a record of publications and participation in research projects.
- ▶ A broad understanding of key theoretical frameworks relevant to the study of urban informality.
- ▶ Capacity to independently develop research projects from conception to grant application stage.
- ▶ High-level skills in relevant fieldwork research methods.
- ▶ Excellent English language written and verbal communication skills including the ability to draft communications and reports, and to convey complex information in a manner that is clear, concise and accessible to a broad audience.
- ▶ Demonstrated ability to build effective working relationships with co-researchers and partner organisations.

- ▶ High-level interpersonal and communication skills, including demonstrated capacity to work with participants from varied ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.
- ▶ Demonstrated ability to work independently and collaboratively in a team to prioritise workload, meet agreed deadlines and achieve project goals.
- ▶ Excellent organisational, project management and database management skills.

1.2 DESIRABLE

- ▶ Understanding of research funding systems and research governance obligations with the capacity to engage with funding agencies.
- ▶ Experience with large data sets, GIS and database management.
- ▶ High level skills in urban mapping, urban design and/or planning.
- ▶ Experience of highly informalised environments in cities of the Global South.

2. *Special Requirements*

May be required to work outside of normal work hours in support of event management and meeting support.

3. *Key Responsibilities*

The successful candidate will:

- ▶ Provide research coordination for all project areas of the Hub.
- ▶ Provide project administration and coordination support for Hub Directors.
- ▶ Develop new research grants in collaboration with Hub Directors including the writing of grant applications.
- ▶ Produce high quality publications arising from scholarship and research with a focus on high profile international journals and publishers.
- ▶ Disseminate research findings to academic and wider audiences through a range of media such as: public lectures, conference presentations, research reports, professional publications, the Hub website, public broadcasting, social media and active networking.
- ▶ Assist in the development of Hub events such as academic visitors, symposia, reading groups, PhD supervision and support, research seminars and conferences.
- ▶ Development and management of a Hub research database.
- ▶ Contribute openly to intellectual debate within the Faculty and the larger academic and general community on relevant issues.
- ▶ Tracking and management of Hub resources, finances, research projects & outputs
- ▶ Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) responsibilities as outlined in section 5.

4. Other Information

4.1 BUDGET DIVISION

The Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning is the leading educational and research institution in the Asia-Pacific region addressing the design and realisation of inhabited environments. It 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 170 staff and approximately 3000 students, one third of whom are international. It is responsible for the undergraduate Bachelor of Design degree with majors in architecture, landscape architecture, property, construction, and urban design and 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 environmental 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 can 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. Our researchers address key issues, such as mitigation of natural disasters, climate change, sustainability, the future of cities, population growth and urban density. We lead debate in many of these areas. We also contribute 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, we provide the highest quality research training environment, attracting the best and brightest future researchers in our disciplines 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. Our PhD and MPhil graduates are well-rounded professionals, critical thinkers and future research leaders.

We have built strong research foundations by valuing and developing our 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/>.

4.2 THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

The University of Melbourne is a leading international university with a tradition of excellence in teaching and research. With outstanding performance in international rankings, Melbourne is at the forefront of higher education in the Asia-Pacific region and the world. The University of Melbourne is consistently ranked among the world's top universities. Further information about our reputation and global ranking is available at

<http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/explore/why-choose-melbourne/reputation-rankings>.

Established in 1853, shortly after the founding of Melbourne, the University is located just a few minutes from the centre of this global city. The main Parkville campus is recognised as the hub of Australia's premier knowledge precinct comprising eight hospitals, many leading research institutes and a wide range of knowledge-based industries.

The University employs people of outstanding calibre and offers a unique environment where staff are valued and rewarded. Further information about working at The University of Melbourne is available at <http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers>.

4.3 GROWING ESTEEM, THE MELBOURNE CURRICULUM AND RESEARCH AT MELBOURNE: ENSURING EXCELLENCE AND IMPACT TO 2025

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.

<http://about.unimelb.edu.au/strategy-and-leadership>

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 new educational model, designed for an outstanding experience for all students, 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 reforming to create new frontiers and challenges. 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 University's global aspirations seek to make significant contributions to major social, economic and environmental challenges. Accordingly, the University's research strategy Research at Melbourne: Ensuring Excellence and Impact to 2025 aspires to a significant advancement in the excellence and impact of its research outputs.

<http://research.unimelb.edu.au/index.html#home>

The strategy recognises that as a public-spirited, research-intensive institution of the future, the University must strive to make a tangible impact in Australia and the world, working across disciplinary and sectoral boundaries and building deeper and more substantive engagement with industry, collaborators and partners. While cultivating the fundamental enabling disciplines through investigator-driven research, the University has adopted three grand challenges aspiring to solve some of the most difficult problems facing our world in the next century. These Grand Challenges include:

Understanding our place and purpose – The place and purpose grand challenge centres on understanding all aspects of our national identity, with a focus on Australia's 'place' in the Asia-Pacific region and the world, and on our 'purpose' or mission to improve all dimensions of the human condition through our research.

Fostering health and wellbeing – The health and wellbeing grand challenge focuses on building the scale and breadth of our capabilities in population and global health; on harnessing our contribution to the 'convergence revolution' of biomedical and health research, bringing together the life sciences, engineering and the physical sciences; and on addressing the physical, mental and social aspects of wellbeing by looking beyond the traditional boundaries of biomedicine.

Supporting sustainability and resilience – The sustainability and resilience grand challenge addresses the critical issues of climate change, water and food security, sustainable energy and designing resilient cities and regions. In addition to the technical aspects, this grand challenge considers the physical and social functioning of cities, connecting physical phenomena with lessons from our past, and the implications of the technical solutions for economies, living patterns and behaviours.

Essential to tackling these challenges, an outstanding faculty, high performing students, wide collaboration including internationally and deep partnerships with external parties form central components of Research at Melbourne: Ensuring Excellence and Impact to 2025.

4.4 EQUITY AND DIVERSITY

Another key priority for the University is access and equity. The University of Melbourne is strongly committed to an admissions policy that takes the best students, regardless of financial and other disadvantage. An Access, Equity and Diversity Policy Statement, included in the University Plan, reflects this priority.

The University is committed to equal opportunity in education, employment and welfare for staff and students. Students are selected on merit and staff are selected and promoted on merit.

4.5 GOVERNANCE

The Vice Chancellor is the Chief Executive Officer of the University and responsible to Council for the good management of the University.

Comprehensive information about the University of Melbourne and its governance structure is available at <http://www.unimelb.edu.au/unisec/governance.html>.

5. Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)

All staff are required to take reasonable care for their own health and safety and that of other personnel who may be affected by their conduct.

OHS responsibilities applicable to positions are published at:

<http://safety.unimelb.edu.au/topics/responsibilities/>

These include general staff responsibilities and those additional responsibilities that apply for Managers and Supervisors and other Personnel.