



THE UNIVERSITY OF
**WESTERN
AUSTRALIA**

Health and
Medical Sciences

Medical School

Professor of General Practice



Appointment of Professor of General Practice



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Professor Dawn Freshwater
Vice-Chancellor
The University of Western Australia

Introduction

Applications are invited for appointment to a tenurable Professor of General Practice position in the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences and on behalf of the University and the faculty I welcome your interest in this position.

The University has a significant reputation internationally and is a member of Australia's prestigious Group of Eight research-intensive universities. It continues to build on its reputation for excellence and is a major research contributor in the medical and health sectors and other areas that align with national research and innovation priorities.

We want you to pursue what others deem impossible, to challenge convention and be inspired by all of the possibilities. We offer you an environment in which you can really make a difference to the world and encourage others to do so too. You are not only joining a World Top 100 university, you will be part of a community of people committed to the world's advancement.

The Professor of General Practice is expected to provide a visionary perspective to the discipline, academic leadership in teaching, research and policy development and be actively involved in contemporary clinical practice. The appointee will

show evidence of a strong record of published research, be actively involved in research and possess the ability to foster the research of others.

Situated on the QE11 Medical Centre site, General Practice is a vibrant, growing discipline and a key unit in the Medical School and its staff have a significant role in the development and implementation of the new medical curriculum and will be teaching across all years of the new course.

As part of the State's \$5 billion investment in healthcare, the QEII Medical Centre site has been undergoing a redevelopment for the past three years that has included the construction of a Children's Hospital, the Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research, PathWest facility, an expanded SCGH Cancer Centre and a new Mental Health Unit.

The Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences is actively recruiting to a number of senior Level E professorial positions. This is an exciting time to join our staff and enhance research and teaching excellence in Western Australia.

Professor Dawn Freshwater
Vice-Chancellor

The University of Western Australia

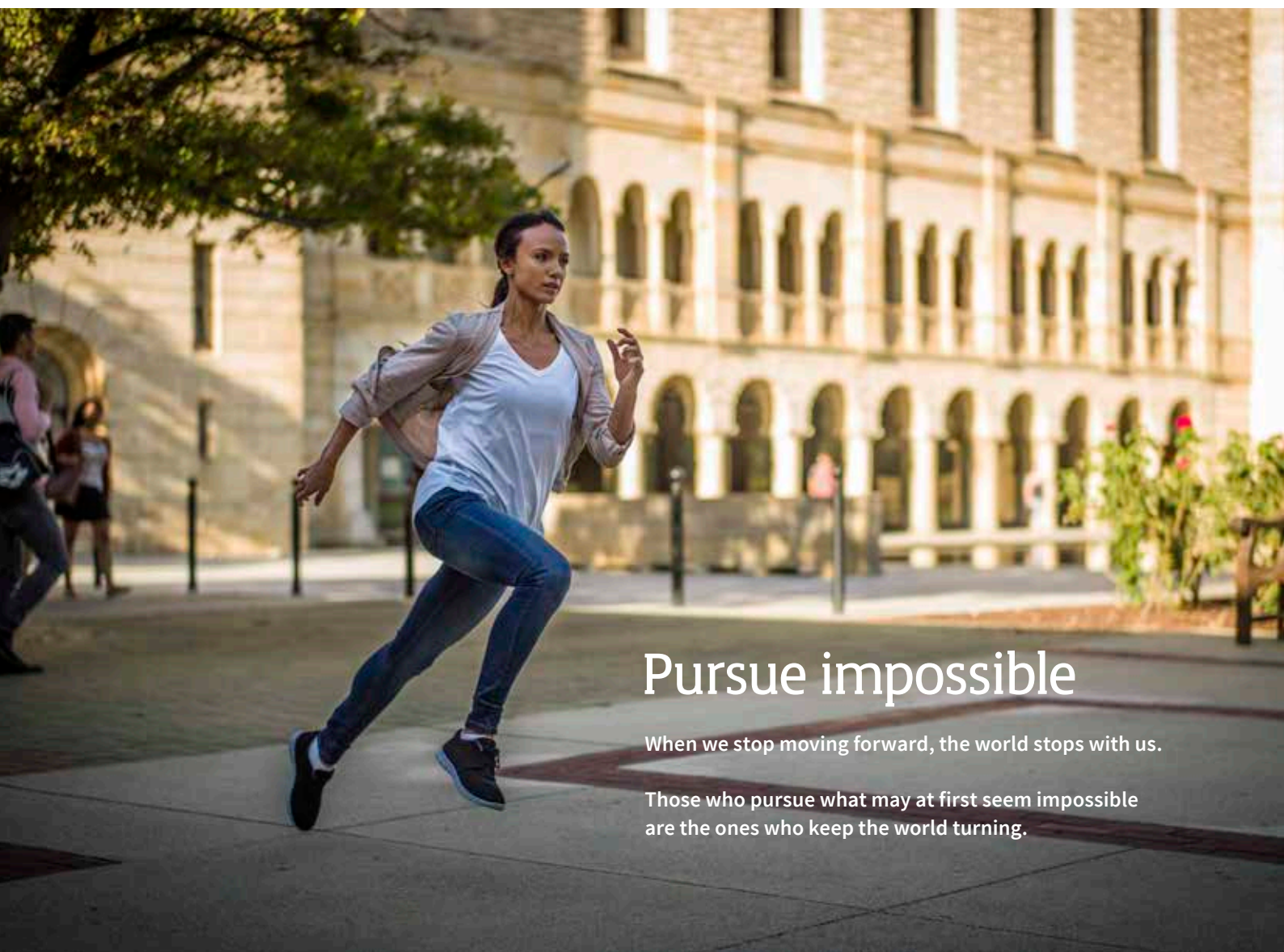
The University of Western Australia is a high-quality research-intensive university with a broad and balanced coverage of disciplines in the arts, science and major professions. It is Western Australia's oldest university, established in 1911, and currently has a student population of approximately 24,500.

The University has an international reputation for excellence and enterprise and is regarded as one of Australia's top research institutions. Its strong research culture sees it attract high levels of competitive research funding. At the same time the University places great emphasis on high quality teaching and learning, and is committed to the development of innovative and responsive programs. It has focused on the teaching-research nexus, so that teaching and learning take place in an atmosphere of research scholarship.

The University's high quality teaching and research ensure it remains the university of preference for Western Australia's highest achieving school leavers, as well as attracting high-calibre undergraduate and postgraduate students from around the nation and overseas. The quality of the student population is high by national and international standards.

The University is recognised nationally and internationally for the quality of its academic staff and has strong strategic partnerships with industry, the professions and government. It operates in collaboration with other research-intensive universities in Australia and around the world. Graduates of UWA are highly competitive internationally, achieving success in higher study and in wide-ranging fields of employment. Many graduates have risen to prominence in leadership roles in industry, government, education and the professions, in Australia and internationally.

uwa.edu.au



Pursue impossible

When we stop moving forward, the world stops with us.

Those who pursue what may at first seem impossible
are the ones who keep the world turning.

General Practice

As a key unit within the Medical School, General Practice is a small but expanding group of dedicated clinical academics, primary care researchers and support staff with a growing role in the Faculty as medical education becomes increasingly community-based and focused.

Academic general practice at The University of Western Australia began in 1977 when the Faculty of Medicine established a new department and Chair of General Practice, the first-named Chair of General Practice in Australia. General Practice is now firmly established within the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences and plays a key role in community-based education and research.

Teaching

General Practice teaches in all years of the medical course at UWA.

The UWA Medical Degree features an integrated curriculum, with vertical and horizontal integration and contextualisation of clinical and bioscience content. Students take one integrated unit per semester, rather than studying individual science and clinical disciplines in isolation. General Practice leads the development and delivery of integrated and clinical teaching throughout the course via Case Enhanced Learning and Clinical Skills programs.

Case Enhanced Learning (CEL) teaching uses clinical cases to stimulate discussion, questioning, problem solving and reasoning, allowing students to put their basic science learning into a clinical perspective. The content is developed by General practice in collaboration with science and other clinical disciplines. Teaching sessions are held weekly in each week of the semester and run in a small group format led by a generalist clinician, the majority of whom are GPs.

Clinical Skills involves students learning the clinical methods of history, examination and investigations of each of the major body systems together with basic procedural skills. Students are taught

in small groups with a GP tutor supervisor, senior student peer tutors and volunteer standardised patients. Both the CEL and clinical skills teaching are rated as the most valuable teaching in the introductory years.

In the fourth semester of the course General Practice leads the integrated community clinical learning subunit. Weekly multidisciplinary tutorials and seminars cover advanced clinical reasoning and communication skills on primary care topics that reflect the concurrent clinical placements in medicine, surgery, aged care and psychiatry.

Throughout the second year of the course students undertake a longitudinal community general practice placement. In this placement, students focus on formulating diagnostic hypotheses and problem lists for common presentations to General Practice. Students follow the clinical and psychosocial progress of a single patient identified by the preceptor with a chronic disease for the year, including home visits to the patient.

The third year of the course features an eight week rotation in general practice integrated with ophthalmology for every student. The curriculum emphasises the essential knowledge and skills integral for GPs to provide quality care to individuals and families across the lifespan from a broad range of sociocultural contexts. Students spend three full days per week immersed in urban general practices affiliated with UWA. Placement based teaching is complemented by centralised teaching which uses problem-based learning to focus on the presentation and diagnosis of the most common illnesses, and complex consultation and procedural skills in general practice.

Rural general practice, Aboriginal health and emergency care in rural areas are a strong feature of the final year of the course which is based around a 4-week attachment in a rural general practice and jointly administered with the Rural Clinical School. Students have their attachments from Esperance to Kununurra and from Exmouth to Katherine. This course is very well received by students and even fifteen years after graduation is regarded as one of the highlights of the medical course.

Teaching Innovations

General Practice has been highly innovative in its teaching methods and content. It was one of the first of its kind in Australia to use video recording to teach consultation skills and to conduct distance education through e-mail discussion groups. It was among the first to teach palliative care, Aboriginal, multicultural and rural health. It initiated residential medical career workshops for Year 10 students; rural electives for fifth-year students and the integrated clinical methods examination used in fifth year. It was the first to start a club for future rural doctors and nurses (the SPINRPHEX Club). This has been taken up by every medical school in Australia and increasingly by schools training allied health professionals.





Research

Despite its small number of academic staff, General Practice has been one of the most productive of all Australian general practice departments over the last 20 years. Historically General Practice at UWA has been highly influential in the areas of Aboriginal health, rural health, the management of chronic disorders and various conceptual aspects of general practice.

In recent years the major areas of research activity have been in chronic disease management, cancer in primary care and genetic medicine. General Practice also have a research group the Collaborative for Healthcare Analysis and Statistical Modelling which is a collaboration of UWA Schools of Primary, Aboriginal, and Rural Health Care; Statistics and Mathematics; and Earth and Environment; directed and funded by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer for WA Health Department. CHASM leverages the WA Data Collections to deliver the best possible health outcomes and service delivery for both the community of WA and WA Health.

General Practice offers a number of opportunities for postgraduate research training, supporting a Masters in Primary Care Research, contributing to the new Masters of Clinical Research and supervising several PhD students.

Community Service

General Practice staff are active on advisory committees to State and Commonwealth governments, particularly in areas of medical education, primary care research, cancer and chronic disease management. Staff are also closely involved with professional bodies such as the Australian Medical Association, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, WA Primary Health Alliance, the Australian Association of Academic Primary Care, Postgraduate Medical Council of WA, Various government expert reference groups and non-government organisations such as the Primary Health Care Research Information Service and The Cancer Council.

Faculty Of Health And Medical Sciences

The Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences is a large interdisciplinary health faculty which includes the Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Allied Health, Biomedical Sciences and Population and Global Health. The Faculty boasts some of the University of Western Australia's most outstanding researchers. Our most notable being Professor Barry Marshall and Emeritus Professor Robin Warren who were awarded the 2005 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their discovery of the bacterium *Helicobacter* and its role in gastritis and peptic ulcer disease. This marvellous achievement, together with consistently being ranked in the top 75 in the world, highlight our international reputation and high global standing for research excellence. Our high quality research is undertaken within each of the Schools as well as Centres which it hosts.

The Faculty has a strong record of quality education teaches a comprehensive programme of undergraduate courses in the biomedical sciences as well as postgraduate coursework programmes and research degrees. Our professional entry-to-practice degrees include programmes in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, podiatric medicine and social work. We also offer an extensive range of postgraduate coursework and research courses in public health, clinical research, dental science, health professional education, clinical pathology, infectious diseases, rural and remote medicine and neonatal and child health.

Our academics and students have access to high quality and modern teaching facilities. Our Medical and Dental Library is currently undergoing a significant refurbishment to generate a technology-rich educational hub to meet the changing working styles of students. Our students and staff will have access to a modern, vibrant and dynamic learning space that features collaborative and individual learning spaces, an e-learning suite, comfortable work spaces and quiet rooms.

Role, key responsibilities, selection criteria and conditions of employment

Role statement

The Professor of General Practice is expected to provide a visionary perspective to the discipline, academic leadership in teaching, research and policy development, and be actively involved in contemporary clinical practice. The Professor of General Practice is responsible to the Head of the Medical School.

Key responsibilities

Leadership and Teaching

Provide active leadership in teaching within the discipline, in the maintenance of academic standards and the development of educational policy and curriculum;

Make a significant contribution to all levels of undergraduate and postgraduate teaching.

Research

- Provide academic leadership in research (which will include publication in refereed journals, books and other scholarly works, invitations to present keynote addresses at international meetings and other recognition such as awards and prizes);
- Foster research groups and individuals who wish to conduct research;
- Initiate and conduct scholarly research;
- Actively seek and attract research funding;
- Link research to clinical practice and teaching;
- Supervise postgraduate research including PhD, Masters and Honours students.

Clinical

- Actively participate in clinical general practice;
- Provide leadership in contemporary clinical practice.

Service

- Liaise and effectively communicate with relevant sections of the profession, government and industry bodies as well as the wider community;
- Provide leadership in the development of academic general practice;
- Effectively represent and advocate for the discipline with the School, the University and the community.

General

- Work within the legislative requirements of the University and support the principles of equity and diversity;
- Ensure relevant occupational safety and health practices and standards are implemented and maintained;
- Other duties as directed.





Selection criteria

Qualifications

- Registrable as a medical practitioner with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA);
- Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine or a recognised equivalent professional college;
- A higher academic degree (doctorate or masters) is essential.

Leadership and Teaching

- Demonstrated considerable experience in clinical general practice;
- Evidence of a strong personal contribution and commitment to high quality teaching at all levels;
- Experience in the development of educational policy and curriculum within the discipline;
- Capacity to provide academic leadership and maintain high academic standards in all facets of academic life;
- Demonstrated ability to represent the discipline within the University and more broadly;
- Exemplary interpersonal and organisational skills and the ability to communicate effectively at all levels.

Research and Scholarship

- Academic leadership and personal commitment to scholarly research;
- Evidence of quality research output and communication of that output to others;
- Ability to attract research funding;
- Ability to foster research groups and individuals, including guiding general practitioners who wish to conduct research;
- Experience in supervision of postgraduate research students;
- Experience in the development of research policy and the ability to link research to clinical practice and teaching.

Immediate challenges facing the Professor of General Practice over the next 12-18 months

- Contribute to the leadership and management of the School, ensuring the development of a positive academic working environment, aligned to the priorities of both the University and Faculty;
- Develop and foster research activity across the General Practice discipline group, the School and its associated clinical sites;
- Engage and mentor colleagues at all levels in research (and teaching) activity, resulting in an enthusiastic, collaborative and engaged culture;
- Develop appropriate new research groups. Expected outputs will include increased research performance and capability, broader research income, growing higher degree research students, demonstrated clinical and academic collaboration, and multi-disciplinary interaction;
- Support colleagues through the establishment and implementation of a new MD curriculum, especially given the significant involvement of small group GP teaching across all 4 years;
- Promote internally and externally the work of the General Practice discipline, and continue to develop partnerships and relationships with relevant stakeholders across the University, its clinical partners, and elsewhere.

Conditions of employment

The appointment will be tenurable and is subject to annual performance reviews.

An attractive and flexibly constructed remuneration package will be negotiated and will include:

- Professorial salary and Clinical Loading;
- Employer contribution to superannuation of 17% (standard employee contribution is 7%);
- Eligibility for sabbatical leave;
- Generous leave provisions and salary packaging;
- Relocation assistance including airfares (if applicable).



Western Australia and Perth

The resource-rich State of Western Australia is the economic powerhouse of Australia. Western Australia is the principal Australian supplier of natural resources and energy to international partners, including China, India, Japan, South Korea and much of South-East Asia. Western Australia's diverse inventory of minerals and energy, as well as its agricultural and fisheries resources, account for 25 per cent of the nation's exports and place the State at the heart of Australian economic growth and transformation.

Western Australia and its capital Perth occupy the same time zone as 60 per cent of the world's population and the nations that promise the greatest economic growth of the 21st century. Western Australia is also Australia's largest state, covering some 2.5 million square kilometres and 12,500 kilometres of coastline, including some of the most ancient landscapes in the world. The State's population is matching the rapid growth of the economy and is over two million.

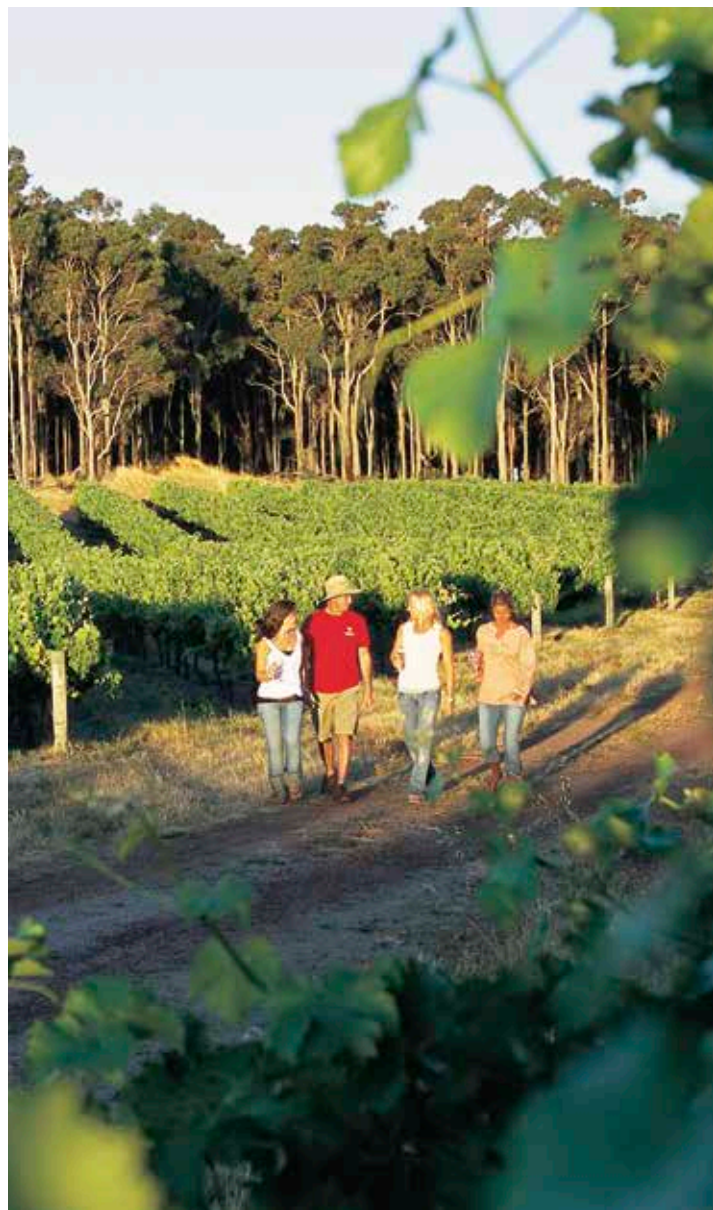
Perth is a cosmopolitan city, with wide ethnic and cultural diversity. The city centre is on the Swan River 12 kilometres from the Indian Ocean port of Fremantle.

The city enjoys a Mediterranean climate, with more hours of sunshine than any other capital city in Australia. Summers are hot and dry and the winters mild and wet. Perth's world-famous beaches and rivers, extensive parklands and variety of restaurants and cafes provide a superb living environment. For more information see:

tourism.wa.gov.au

Perth is well served with art galleries, theatres and cinemas and is home to the WA Symphony Orchestra, the WA Ballet and the WA Opera. The cultural highlight of the year is the Perth International Arts Festival, founded and owned by The University of Western Australia: **uwa.edu.au/perthfestival**

Western Australia's five universities and wide variety of public and private schools, vocational institutions and English language colleges provide quality assured education with flexible study pathways and state-of-the-art facilities. Perth continues to build its reputation as a destination for international students seeking a quality education: **studypertth.com.au**



Applications

Thank you for your interest. If you wish to proceed, the following information will assist you with your application. Refer also to the selection criteria on page 7.

Your application must include the following:

- A covering letter or statement that clearly demonstrates the extent to which you satisfy each of the selection criteria and the requirements of the position;
- Evidence of the impact of your research beyond academia, such as through contributions made to economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment, or quality of life;
- A curriculum vitae providing personal details, qualifications, grants, graduate student supervision, publications and work history;
- The names and contact details, including email addresses, of three referees who may be contacted for a confidential report. Please note that your permission will be sought before referees are contacted.

The University of Western Australia provides visa sponsorship for international appointees.

Lodging your application

Applications must be submitted online at:
jobs.uwa.edu.au/executive

Closing date

Friday 5 May 2017

Enquiries and further information

If you wish to discuss the position in confidence, please contact:

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