



## POSITION DESCRIPTION

School of Chemistry  
Faculty of Science

ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER APPLICANTS ARE  
STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO APPLY

# Postdoctoral Researcher in Medicinal Chemistry

POSITION NO	0056020
CLASSIFICATION	Level A
SALARY	\$75,289 - \$102,163 p.a (PhD entry level \$95,179 p.a.)
SUPERANNUATION	Employer contribution of 17%
WORKING HOURS	Full-Time (1.0 FTE)
BASIS OF EMPLOYMENT	Fixed-Term for 1 year
OTHER BENEFITS	<a href="http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers/working/benefits">http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers/working/benefits</a>
HOW TO APPLY	Online applications are preferred. Go to <a href="http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers">http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers</a> , select the relevant option ('Current Staff' or 'Prospective Staff'), then find the position by title or number.
CONTACT FOR ENQUIRIES ONLY	Prof Spencer Williams Tel 0438 084 748 Email <a href="mailto:sjwill@unimelb.edu.au">sjwill@unimelb.edu.au</a>  <i>Please do not send your application to this contact</i>

For information about working for the University of Melbourne, visit our website:  
[about.unimelb.edu.au/careers](http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers)

## Acknowledgement of Country

The University of Melbourne acknowledges the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia. The University recognises the unique place held by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the original custodians of country and their continued connection to the land, waterways, songlines and culture. The University respects all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People and warmly embrace those students, staff, Elders and collaborators who identify as First Nations.

## Position Summary

This position will support a program of research in the area of medicinal chemistry focussed on drugs to treat fibrotic disorders. The appointee will possess a PhD with experience in organic chemistry. In this position they will conduct medicinal chemistry optimization of drug candidates for potential clinical development. They will have access to a broad range of spectroscopic and analytical equipment and will participate with a network of collaborators to examine the biological activities of target molecules. There will be opportunities to learn new skills in modelling/docking and about the broader process of drug development.

### 1. Key Responsibilities

The position description should be read alongside [Academic Career Benchmarks and Indicators](#).

A level A academic is acquiring skills and building academic achievements (oriented towards the benchmarks).

#### 1.1 RESEARCH AND RESEARCH TRAINING

You are expected to significantly contribute towards the research effort of the team and to develop your research expertise with an increasing degree of autonomy.

- ▶ Under the guidance and support of Senior Academic staff conduct rigorous, impactful research, supporting progress towards specific research goals in the area of drug development
- ▶ Publish academic papers and other scholarly outputs of an internationally competitive level
- ▶ Contribute to and write progress reports of a high academic standard in accordance with the research expectations of the University of Melbourne
- ▶ Actively participate in research seminars and conferences to disseminate research findings as opportunities arise
- ▶ Contribute to the preparation, or where appropriate individual preparation of research proposal submissions to internal or external funding bodies as relevant.
- ▶ Undertake administrative functions and obligations primarily connected with the staff member's area of research

- ▶ Contribute to, and assist in the co-supervision and training of research students primarily at PhD and undergraduate level
- ▶ Engage with relevant professional and industry bodies and stakeholders to foster collaborative partnerships

## 1.2 TEACHING AND LEARNING

- ▶ Contribute to teaching, training, scientific mentoring and supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate research students

## 1.3 LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

- ▶ Actively participate at School meetings and with guidance, contribute to planning activities or committee work to support capacity building in the School/discipline.
- ▶ Contribute to, or present research to the public to elevate public awareness of educational and scientific developments, and promote critical enquiry and public debate within the community where appropriate
- ▶ Effectively demonstrate and promote University values including diversity and inclusion and high standards of ethics and integrity
- ▶ Actively contribute to School activities such as Open day to promote student engagement.

## 1.4 OTHER DUTIES

- ▶ Perform other tasks as requested by the supervisor or the Head of School
- ▶ Actively participate in the University Professional Development Framework
- ▶ Ensure an up-to-date record of University compliance courses, such as, but not limited to, Appropriate Workplace Behaviour, PDF for Staff and Supervisors, OH &S training courses.
- ▶ Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) responsibilities as outlined in section 4.

# 2. Selection Criteria

## 2.1 ESSENTIAL

- ▶ Completion (or near completion) of a PhD in Chemistry or a field relevant to Organic Chemistry
- ▶ Demonstrated experience in synthesis and structural characterisation of compounds, particularly using NMR spectroscopy
- ▶ A demonstrated aptitude for research, with a sound publication record in relevant areas, commensurate with experience and opportunities.
- ▶ Demonstrated ability to prepare research reports and manuscripts for publication
- ▶ Demonstrated ability to manage competing priorities and excellent time management skills, including meeting deadlines and to bring projects to a timely completion.
- ▶ Excellent interpersonal and both written and oral communication skills in English.

- ▶ Excellent ability to work co-operatively and positively in a multi-disciplinary research based team environment and liaise with people from diverse backgrounds.
- ▶ Demonstrated excellent organisational skills to meet deadlines and bring projects to a timely completion
- ▶ Ability to show initiative and work independently and creatively on day-to-day research activities

## 2.2 DESIRABLE

- ▶ The ability to attract external funding through grant applications and/or support in funded joint projects with others internal or external to the university.
- ▶ Experience in biochemical assays and interpretation of results.
- ▶ Experience in molecular docking or bioinformatic methods relevant to drug development.
- ▶ Evidence of, or potential in, to supervise the research of undergraduate or graduate students.
- ▶ Experience in the authoring of published papers and writing of successful research grant applications.

## 3. *Equal Opportunity, Diversity and Inclusion*

The University is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to providing a workplace free from all forms of unlawful discrimination, harassment, bullying, vilification and victimisation. The University makes decisions on employment, promotion and reward on the basis of merit.

The University is committed to all aspects of equal opportunity, diversity and inclusion in the workplace and to providing all staff, students, contractors, honorary appointees, volunteers and visitors with a safe, respectful and rewarding environment free from all forms of unlawful discrimination, harassment, vilification and victimisation. This commitment is set out in the University's People Strategy 2015-2020 and policies that address diversity and inclusion, equal employment opportunity, discrimination, sexual harassment, bullying and appropriate workplace behaviour. All staff are required to comply with all University policies.

The University values diversity because we recognise that the differences in our people's age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, nationality, sexual orientation, physical ability and background bring richness to our work environment. Consequently, the People Strategy sets out the strategic aim to drive diversity and inclusion across the University to create an environment where the compounding benefits of a diverse workforce are recognised as vital in our continuous strive to service for excellence and reach the targets of Growing Esteem.

## 4. *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.

## 5. Other Information

### 5.1 ORGANISATION UNIT

<http://www.chemistry.unimelb.edu.au>

The School of Chemistry at The University of Melbourne is one of the largest and oldest in Australia with a distinguished history in teaching and research. The first lectures in chemistry in The University of Melbourne were given in 1856, only three years after the University was founded. Since then the School has grown and developed and there are presently over 2500 undergraduates enrolled in Chemistry subjects, with more than 150 BSc (Hons), PhD and MSc research students. Teaching and undertaking research in the School include 23 continuing research & teaching staff, and over 35 research only staff, supported by a team of technical and administrative personnel.

The School has an excellent international reputation in research and an outstanding record of achievement in attracting external research funding. There is an ongoing program to keep its research facilities at world standard and to focus our research efforts. This has involved progressive upgrading of the School's laboratories, the purchase of state-of-the-art instrumentation and recruitment of academics with a strong research profile. In addition, we are building stronger links with other disciplines within the University and with other research institutions locally and internationally.

### 5.2 FACULTY OF SCIENCE

<http://www.science.unimelb.edu.au>

Science at the University of Melbourne is the most highly ranked Faculty of Science in Australia. Science is defined by its research excellence in the physical and life sciences and is at the forefront of research addressing major societal issues from climate change to disease. Our discoveries help build an understanding of the world around us.

We have over 150 years of experience in pioneering scientific thinking and analysis, leading to outstanding teaching and learning and offer a curriculum based on highly relevant research, which empowers our STEM students and graduates to understand and address complexities that impact real world issues and the challenges of tomorrow.

We aspire to engage the broader community with the impact that Science has on our everyday lives. Through the strength of our internships and research project offerings, our students are provided opportunities to engage with industry partners to solve real-world issues.

The Faculty of Science has over 50,000 alumni and is one of the largest faculties in the University comprising six schools: BioSciences, Chemistry, Ecosystem and Forest Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics, Physics and the School of Geography, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.

The Faculty is custodian of the Bio21 Molecular Science and Biotechnology Institute, the Indigenous Knowledge Institute, the Melbourne Energy Institute, the Office for Environmental Programs and home to numerous Centres.

Science manages more than \$301 million of income per annum, with a staff base in the order of 250 FTE professional staff, and more than 662 FTE academic staff.

We offer a range of undergraduate, honours, graduate and research degrees; enrolling over 10,800 undergraduate and 2,500 graduate students. The Faculty of Science is the custodial Faculty for the BSc (Bachelor of Science). The Faculty of Science is highly research focused, performing strongly in the Australian Research Council competitive grants schemes. The Faculty of Science is currently growing its competitiveness and standing in the National Health and Medical Research Council and health space.

The Faculty of Science provides community services and industry partnerships based on a solid foundation of research in the pure and applied sciences. The Faculty has an endowment of approximately \$100 million. The annual income from the endowment supports more than 140 prizes, scholarships and research awards, and numerous academic positions.

### 5.3 THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Established in 1853, the University of Melbourne is a leading international university with a tradition of excellence in teaching and research. The main campus in Parkville 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. With outstanding performance in international rankings, the University is at the forefront of higher education in the Asia-Pacific region and the world.

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>.

### 5.4 ADVANCING MELBOURNE

The University's strategic direction is grounded in its purpose. While its expression may change, our purpose is enduring: to benefit society through the transformative impact of education and research. Together, the vision and purpose inform the focus and scale of our aspirations for the coming decade.

Advancing Melbourne reflects the University's commitment to its people, its place, and its partners. Our aspiration for 2030 is to be known as a world-leading and globally connected Australian university, with our students at the heart of everything we do.

We will offer students a distinctive and outstanding education and experience, preparing them for success as leaders, change agents and global citizens.

We will be recognised locally and globally for our leadership on matters of national and global importance, through outstanding research and scholarship and a commitment to collaboration.

We will be empowered by our sense of place and connections with communities. We will take opportunities to advance both the University and the City of Melbourne in close collaboration and synergy.

We will deliver this through building a brilliant, diverse and vibrant University community, with strong connections to those we serve.

The means for achieving these goals include the development of the University of Melbourne's academic and professional staff and the capabilities needed to support a

modern, world-class university. Those means require a commitment to ongoing financial sustainability and an ambitious infrastructure program which will reshape the campus and our contribution to the communities we engage with. This strategy, and the priorities proposed, is centred around five intersecting themes; place, community, education, discovery and global.

## 5.5 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/governance>