



POSITION DESCRIPTION

Associate Professor in Physiotherapy

October 2024

UNIVERSITY of
TASMANIA 

Position Summary

College / Division	College of Health and Medicine
School / Section	School of Health Sciences
Location	Launceston
Classification	<u>Academic Level D</u>
Reports to	Head of School of Health Sciences
Direct reports	4
Delegation level	<u>No Delegation</u>
Workload Allocation	<u>Teaching Intensive</u>

The Opportunity

We are seeking to appoint an Associate Professor in Physiotherapy to join the Allied Health Expansion Program in the School of Health Sciences. The Allied Health Expansion program is creating new opportunities to better support the Allied Health workforce needs in Tasmania. We are collaborating with the government, health professionals, industry and local Tasmanian communities to increase allied health education, training and research opportunities in Tasmania.

The appointee will lead the Master of Physiotherapy program and collaborate with a state-wide team to design and deliver core components of allied health courses. As Academic Lead, they will oversee annual quality review cycles in line with UTAS Quality Assurance, Partnerships, and Compliance policies, ensuring the program's integrity meets accreditation requirements.

In this leadership role, the appointee will work closely with the Departments of Health and Education, the Tasmanian Health Service, and community stakeholders. They will ensure high-quality learning experiences through a place-based curriculum in entry-to-practice and professional development courses, leading a team to support students in becoming evidence-based practitioners capable of interdisciplinary collaboration.

The incumbent will oversee the development of teaching materials, delivery of teaching, and student assessment, including the use of emerging technologies. They will primarily teach physiotherapy and interprofessional curriculum and may teach other areas as needed. Additionally, they will support collaborative and applied research in allied health, aligning with the College's strategic research priorities, aiming for social, ethical, and culturally sensitive solutions to complex health problems.

The incumbent will contribute to a School committed to a set of workplace principles which facilitate a culture we are proud of, and that fosters staff wellbeing while enabling us to achieve our collective mission.

About the University of Tasmania

Welcome to the University of Tasmania, your island campus 1,270 million years in the making. This is heightened education at a slower pace of life. A place that attracts the highest percentage of scientists per capita in the world. Home to towering temperate rainforests, 60,000 years of human knowledge and underground cultural experiences of legend. Take your time to breathe it all in.

Our journey began in 1890, with a seed of academic excellence sown on our island. We inspire and encourage people to flourish and thrive. Our unique circumstances have made us resilient, transforming us into creative problem solvers. Our success is a testament to our quiet determination and adaptability.

We are more than just a place of learning. We are a catalyst for economic growth, a beacon for literacy, a champion for health and a guardian of our environment. We generate powerful ideas for and from Tasmania. We invite inquiring minds, from near and far, to join us in our pursuit of the extraordinary.

Accountabilities and outcomes

Purpose

- Lead a team working closely with the Departments of Health and Education, the Tasmanian Health Service, private practices and community stakeholders supporting students to become evidence-based practitioners.
- Ensure high-quality learning experiences through appropriate place-based curriculum in our entry-to-practice and other professional development courses.
- Make an effective and sustained contribution to interprofessional learning in our suite of allied health courses, while working innovatively to achieve social, ethical and culturally sensitive solutions to complex health problems.

Key Outcomes

- Make an effective and sustained contribution to the University in achieving its strategic objectives and fulfilling its operational responsibilities.
- Provide exemplary academic leadership to the School as part of a state-wide team delivering our suite of allied health courses, and by nurturing and facilitating the career development of other staff within the School of Health Sciences.
- Advance the School Learning and Teaching agenda and oversee annual quality review cycles of entry-to-practice Physiotherapy and other professional development courses in accordance with UTAS policies and accreditation requirements.
- Undertake scholarly coursework teaching of an exemplary quality and provide leadership in key areas of learning and teaching in allied health.
- Provide high quality physiotherapy assessment and interventions within the University's health training sites aligned with accepted best practice standards.
- Undertake high-quality research aligned to the strategic research priorities of the College, secure external funding, publish research findings and successfully supervise research higher degree students to completion, to meet and regularly exceed the University's research performance expectations for Level D as appropriate.
- Undertake other duties as assigned by the supervisor.

Expectations

We aim for everyone to have a positive experience at our university, and all staff contribute toward creating a university culture that is safe and supportive, enabling our community to flourish by:

- Treating all others – staff, students and community with fairness, equity and respect.
- Ensuring the workplace is an inspiring and safe place to be.
- Ensuring the workplace is free from harassment, bullying, victimisation and discrimination.

Success profile

Personal Attributes

- **Innovative:** Able to produce new ideas and adopt radical solutions. Readily applies theories and concepts to form strategies and navigate future trends.
- **Leadership:** Assumes responsibility to make decisions and effectively leads, motivates and inspires people to take action.
- **Supportive:** Understands others through listening and empathy, works well in a team and actively involves others by valuing individuals' unique perspectives.
- **Structured:** Works methodically to organise and plan tasks, upholds standards and works quickly, able to multitask to produce outcomes.

Core Capabilities

- **Strategy into Action:** Able to set, operationalise and activate strategy into specific actions, timelines and responsibilities to enable the University to deliver on key strategic goals.
- **Community Engagement:** Role models a genuine commitment to our mission and plays an active role contributing toward sustainable social, economic and cultural progress for the Tasmanian society we serve.
- **Student Focus:** Able to bring the student experience lens to all work activities, contributing to outcomes that evoke student curiosity, interest and passion for disciplinary knowledge and skills.
- **Continuous Improvement:** Continuously finds ways to improve and simplify processes, systems and practices to deliver improved outcomes for our students, staff and community by utilising practices such as Lean, Agile and Design Thinking.

Role Specific Skills, Knowledge and Experience

- Experience and demonstrated achievement in University-level multidisciplinary learning and teaching, with demonstrated experience of flexible learning and familiarity with innovative blended learning & teaching andragogy and digital technologies.
- Evidence of leading, designing and implementing best practice assessment and student learning outcomes at unit or course level.
- Proven ability as an academic leader, with a strong record in team building and creating effective working relationships, along with a capacity to foster excellence in research and teaching and to support and facilitate the career development of staff.
- A substantial record in research that has made innovative contributions to the field of Physiotherapy demonstrated by a strong record of high-quality publications, presentations at conferences, and success in securing external funding.
- A record of successful research higher degree student supervision and completions.
- A demonstrated capacity to build and maintain effective and productive links locally and nationally with the discipline, interdisciplinary domain, profession, industry and/or wider

community.

Qualifications and Licences

- Completion of a PhD Degree in a relevant health discipline (or equivalent combination of qualifications and relevant experience).
- Current registration as a Physiotherapist with the Physiotherapy Board of Australia (PBA), under the auspices of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulatory Authority (AHPRA).

Other Requirements

To be eligible for this position, you are required to hold Australian or New Zealand Citizenship, permanent residence or a valid visa that enables you to fulfil the requirements of this role.

As part of our commitment to a safe and inclusive workplace, employment history and criminal background checks may be conducted as part of the selection process.

Travel between campuses and to visit industry partners may be required to achieve teaching and learning outcomes.



Learn more

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CRICOS Provider Code 00586B/OOM0610043

The intention of this Position Description is to highlight the most important aspects, rather than to limit the scope or accountabilities of this role. Duties may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the position