

Position Description

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow

Position Number: 00086088
Position Title: Post-Doctoral Research Fellow
Date Written: August 2020

Faculty / Division: Medicine
School / Unit: Black Dog Institute
Position Level: Level A

ORGANISATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

UNSW is currently implementing a ten year strategy to 2025 and our ambition for the next decade is nothing less than to establish UNSW as Australia's global university. We aspire to this in the belief that a great university, which is a global leader in discovery, innovation, impact, education and thought leadership, can make an enormous difference to the lives of people in Australia and around the world.

Following extensive consultation in 2015, we identified three strategic priority areas. Firstly, a drive for academic excellence in research and education. Universities are often classified as 'research intensive' or 'teaching intensive'. UNSW is proud to be an exemplar of both. We are amongst a limited group of universities worldwide capable of delivering research excellence alongside the highest quality education on a large scale. Secondly, a passion for social engagement, which improves lives through advancing equality, diversity, open debate and economic progress. Thirdly, a commitment to achieving global impact through sharing our capability in research and education in the highest quality partnerships with institutions in both developed and emerging societies. We regard the interplay of academic excellence, social engagement and global impact as the hallmarks of a great forward-looking 21st century university.

To achieve this ambition we are attracting the very best academic and professional staff to play leadership roles in our organisation.

VALUES IN ACTION: OUR UNSW BEHAVIOURS

UNSW recognises the role of employees in driving a high-performance culture. The behavioural expectations for UNSW are below.



Delivers high performance and demonstrates service excellence.



Thinks creatively and develops new ways of working. Initiates and embraces change.



Works effectively within and across teams. Builds relationships with internal and external stakeholders to deliver on outcomes.



Embraces
Diversity

Values individual differences and contributions of all people and promotes inclusion.



Displays
Respect

Treats others with dignity and empathy. Communicates with integrity and openness.

OVERVIEW OF RELEVANT AREA AND POSITION SUMMARY

UNSW Medicine is a national leader in learning, teaching and research, with close affiliations to a number of Australia's finest hospitals, research institutes and health care organisations. With a strong presence at UNSW Kensington campus, the faculty have staff and students in teaching hospitals in Sydney as well as regional and rural areas of NSW including Albury/Wodonga, Wagga Wagga, Coffs Harbour and Port Macquarie.

The Black Dog Institute is a Medical Research Institute affiliated with UNSW Sydney, and a global leader in translational mental health research. We harness the latest technology and other tools to quickly turn our world-class research findings into clinical services, education and e-health products that improve the lives of people with mental illness and the wider community.

The Post-Doctoral Research Fellow will be responsible for working with Black Dog Institute researchers on one of its competitive research grants applying artificial intelligence to the evaluation of digital mental health interventions. The main responsibilities include: providing research and clinical expertise for the development, delivery and evaluation of mental health treatment, prevention and wellbeing interventions; supporting study development including the ethical approval process; conducting research under limited supervision; and, collaboratively effectively and maintaining strong relationships with relevant researchers within the Institute, stakeholders and policy makers.

The role of Post-Doctoral Research Fellow reports to a Research Fellow and has nil direct reports.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Specific responsibilities for this role include:

- Conduct research under limited supervision either as a member of a team, or where appropriate, independently, and ensure all research is conducted to highest scientific and ethical standards through implementation of best practice research processes
- Provide clinical expertise for the development/refinement, delivery and evaluation of mental health treatment, prevention and wellbeing research interventions as part of a series of planned randomised trials
- Prepare or contribute to the preparation of research protocols and ethics applications, providing ongoing reporting to the relevant ethics committees
- Undertake research analysis and produce or contribute to peer-reviewed research and conference papers
- Collaborate effectively and maintain strong relationships with relevant researchers within the Institute, external research collaborators, stakeholders and policy makers
- Contribute to drafting research grant proposals and tenders for commissioned research, and contribute to the compliance and reporting process of funding bodies
- Attend meetings associated with the research project or work of the organisation unit at departmental and/or faculty meetings and/or provide membership of a limited number of committees

- Be involved in professional activities including, subject to availability of funds, attendance at conferences and seminars in the field of expertise
- Supervise and mentor research assistants and undergraduate students; actively provide guidance on research methods and approaches
- Actively engage in community outreach and the implementation of translational research
- Cooperate with all health and safety policies and procedures of the university and take all reasonable care to ensure that your actions or omissions do not impact on the health and safety of yourself or others.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- A PhD thesis in the area of clinical psychology, public health, medicine or a related discipline
- Strong understanding of the application of psychotherapeutic approaches in the design of digital mental health interventions
- Experience in high-level quantitative analysis
- Experience in the development and successful implementation and evaluation of clinical trials, particularly those involving digital health technologies and/or emerging methods such as SMART, adaptive and factorial designs
- Track record in successfully preparing and securing ethics and related approvals for clinical research projects, including formal project protocols
- Experience in supervision and management of research assistants and undergraduate students
- A track record in publishing scientific research papers in a relevant area or field, and experience in grant writing and ethics submissions
- Demonstrated ability to foster inclusive, respectful and productive working relationships with staff, students and colleagues at all levels
- Excellent interpersonal and written communication skills, with proven ability to build successful working relationships with all levels of staff, students, management, collaborators and members of the public
- Capacity to work well in a team under minimal supervision, and willingness to contribute to broader research and administrative tasks across the Black Dog Institute
- Knowledge of health and safety responsibilities and commitment to attending relevant health and safety training.

It is not the intention of the position description to limit the scope or accountabilities of the position but to highlight the most important aspects of the position. The aspects mentioned above may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the role.