



## POSITION DESCRIPTION

Melbourne School of Population Health and Global Health  
Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences

### Research Officer/Research Fellow: Climate Change and Human Health

POSITION NO	0058622
CLASSIFICATION	Level A
SALARY	\$77,171 – 104,717 p.a. (pro rata for part time)
SUPERANNUATION	Employer contribution of 17%
WORKING HOURS	Part time (0.8 FTE)
BASIS OF EMPLOYMENT	Two-year fixed term position
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 Opportunities' or 'Jobs available to current staff'), then find the position by title or number.
CONTACT FOR ENQUIRIES ONLY	Professor Kathryn Bowen Email <a href="mailto:Kathryn.bowen@unimelb.edu.au">Kathryn.bowen@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:  
**[www.hr.unimelb.edu.au/careers](http://www.hr.unimelb.edu.au/careers)**

## ***Acknowledgement of Country***

The University of Melbourne acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the unceded land on which we work, learn and live: the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong peoples (Burnley, Fishermans Bend, Parkville, Southbank and Werribee campuses), the Yorta Yorta Nation (Dookie and Shepparton campuses), and the Dja Dja Wurrung people (Creswick campus).

The University also acknowledges and is grateful to the Traditional Owners, Elders and Knowledge Holders of all Indigenous nations and clans who have been instrumental in our reconciliation journey.

We recognise the unique place held by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the original owners and custodians of the lands and waterways across the Australian continent, with histories of continuous connection dating back more than 60,000 years. We also acknowledge their enduring cultural practices of caring for Country.

We pay respect to Elders past, present and future, and acknowledge the importance of Indigenous knowledge in the Academy. As a community of researchers, teachers, professional staff and students we are privileged to work and learn every day with Indigenous colleagues and partners.

## ***Position Summary***

We are seeking a highly motivated Research Officer/Research Fellow to join the expanding climate change and human health research program led by Prof Kathryn Bowen and colleagues within the School of Population and Global Health. The applied research in our program aims to rapidly advance the understanding of the impacts of climate change (and other environmental changes), and the development and implementation of practical solutions. In this program there is a very strong focus on policy-relevant research, and co-design of research activities with collaborators. The University of Melbourne has been ranked #1 in Australia for both climate change (as reported in [The Australian](#)) and in public health research (ARWU [Global Ranking of Academic Subjects 2022](#)).

The appointee's principal accountabilities will include supporting the conceptualisation, planning and implementation of climate change and human health research projects, actively leading knowledge exchange processes, and regular and committed stakeholder engagement. This role is a new opportunity for an individual to further enhance their work in climate change and human health in a setting where work is conducted from local to global scales. The appointee will also collaborate with academic colleagues within and beyond the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, and with external collaborators within the public, private and NGO sectors. The appointee will be responsible for initiating new areas of investigation and developing an independent program of research under the guidance of Prof Bowen. The appointee will develop a strong publication record, enthusiastically contribute to collaborative research and policy interests. The appointee will also have the ability to generate new research funding.

As a member of the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health's academic team, the appointee will be expected to support the broad ethos of the School and compliance with University policies and procedures, including in relation to environmental health and safety. We foster a values-based culture of innovation and creativity to enhance the research performance of the University and to achieve excellence in teaching and research outcomes.

We invest in developing the careers and wellbeing of our students and staff and expect all our leaders to live our values of:

- Collaboration and teamwork

- Compassion
- Respect
- Integrity
- Accountability

The position will require PhD qualifications (or in progress), or equivalent, in one or more of public health, social science, epidemiology, health or allied health or related disciplines. The successful applicant is expected to demonstrate high degree of responsibility, self-motivation and organisation and a passion for the research field.

## ***1. Key Responsibilities***

### **1.1 RESEARCH AND RESEARCH TRAINING**

- ▶ Support climate change and human health research projects funded by a variety of sources – state, national and global
- ▶ Support the growing collaborations in climate change and human health research and practice at the University
- ▶ Support a wide-range of knowledge exchange activities – including with public, private and NGO sectors
- ▶ Support a variety of dissemination activities including publications in peer reviewed journals, development of policy briefs, research reports, and contribute to other such outputs.
- ▶ Support the preparation of research proposals for submission to external funding bodies
- ▶ Contribute to the identification of sources of funding to support individual or collaborative projects.
- ▶ Supervise junior staff on all aspects of the research including ethics proposal, study design, project management, stakeholder involvement, conduct of research and preparation of academic and non-academic outputs.
- ▶ Participate in research independently and as a member of a research team
- ▶ Present research at academic and non-academic forums including conferences and seminars

### **1.2 TEACHING AND LEARNING**

- ▶ Provide effective supervision of major honours or postgraduate research projects and supervise or co-supervise Research Higher Degree and Honours students
- ▶ Potentially contribute to teaching undergraduate and/or postgraduate students in climate change and human health

### **1.3 LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE**

- ▶ Support the collaborative development and conduct of public-focussed research and translation programs with national and international partnerships beyond the academy
- ▶ Work productively with external stakeholders including government, non-government organisations, advocacy groups and service providers

- ▶ Participate in community and professional activities including attendance at meetings and presentations at conferences and seminars
- ▶ Effective demonstration and promotion of University values including diversity and inclusion and high standards of ethics and integrity
- ▶ Engage in other forms of knowledge translation, such as direct engagement with policy makers, scholarly blogs (e.g. The Conversation), media and public debate

## ***2. Selection Criteria***

### **2.1 ESSENTIAL**

- ▶ Bachelor degree in relevant discipline such as public health, environmental health, health policy, human geography, psychology, epidemiology, or related disciplines
- ▶ High-level project management skills and organisational skills and problem-solving initiative
- ▶ Evidence of successful partnerships with stakeholder groups including government, service providers and communities
- ▶ Demonstrated experience in using initiative, working with minimal supervision and ability to prioritise tasks to achieve project objectives within timelines
- ▶ Strong interpersonal and communication skills, with an ability to build and maintain relationships with key stakeholders (internal and external) and work collaboratively
- ▶ Ethical scholar who values diversity and works effectively with individual differences

### **2.2 DESIRABLE**

- ▶ Demonstrated success in obtaining research funding
- ▶ Evidence of track record in independent and team-based research in human health and climate change
- ▶ Developing research profile at a national level as evidenced by:
  - invitations and/or funding to engage in collaborative projects relating to teaching, research and leadership practice in the discipline
  - developing a publication record in high-impact peer reviewed journals
- ▶ Statistical expertise
- ▶ Experience mentoring staff and students

## ***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 desire to strive 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 THE MELBOURNE SCHOOL OF POPULATION AND GLOBAL HEALTH**

[www.mspgh.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.mspgh.unimelb.edu.au)

The Melbourne School of Population and Global Health (MSPGH) is a respected leader in the field of public health education, research and knowledge exchange. MSPGH was established in 2001 as the first school of its kind in Australia with a vision to make a difference in the population and public health sphere - building on the substantial assets of our University to advance public health in communities nationally and internationally - with a strong focus on Indigenous peoples.

Since its inception, the School has grown rapidly in size, scope and reputation and has consistently attracted leading academics and researchers who bring considerable skills, insights and expertise. We continue to attract increasing levels of competitive funding from governments and a range of renowned philanthropic organisations, funders and individuals. The School now comprises over 350 academic and professional staff.

The quality of MSPGH research is confirmed by the Academic Ranking of World Universities within which the University of Melbourne maintains its place as the top-ranked Australian university. The ARWU Global Ranking of Academic Subjects 2022 placed the University 12th in the world for Public Health and first in Australia.

Our researchers regularly have work published in prestigious titles including The Lancet, Nature, The New England Journal of Medicine and the Journal of the American Medical Association. The School is strongly engaged internationally with key collaborations including the World Health Organisation, Grand Challenges Canada, the Pasteur Institute and Department of Health in Vietnam, the Public Health Foundation of India and the International Association for Suicide Prevention.

The flagship Master of Public Health degree, with over 650 enrolments, forms the core of a strong teaching program alongside undergraduate teaching and a suite of specialist postgraduate coursework degrees across Biostatistics, Epidemiology, Gerontology, Health Economics, Health Informatics and Sexual Health. These programs and the School's extensive cohort of more than 120 graduate research students make a substantial contribution to training the next generations of public health specialists and researchers nationally and internationally.

The School currently comprises four Centres and two Institutes that focus on key areas of population and global health that are relevant now and will have tangible impacts on the health of national and international communities into the future. These comprise the:

- Centre for Epidemiology & Biostatistics;
- Centre for Health Equity;
- Centre for Health Policy;
- Centre for Mental Health;
- Onemda Place for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health & Wellbeing;
- Melbourne Disability Institute; and the
- Nossal Institute for Global Health.

## 5.2 THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE, DENTISTRY & HEALTH SCIENCES

[www.mdhs.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.mdhs.unimelb.edu.au)

The Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry & Health Sciences has an enviable research record and is the University of Melbourne's largest faculty in terms of management of financial resources, employment of academic and professional staff, teaching of undergraduate and postgraduate (including research higher degree) students and the conduct of basic and applied research. The Faculty's annual revenue is \$630m with approximately 55% of this income related to research activities.

The Faculty has a student teaching load in excess of 8,500 equivalent full-time students including more than 1,300 research higher degree students. The Faculty has approximately 2,195 staff comprising 642 professional staff and 1,553 research and teaching staff.

The Faculty has appointed Australia's first Associate Dean (Indigenous Development) to lead the development and implementation of the Faculty's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), which will be aligned with the broader University – wide plan. To enable the Faculty to improve its Indigenous expertise knowledge base, the Faculty's RAP will address Indigenous employment, Indigenous student recruitment and retention, Indigenous cultural recognition and building partnerships with the Indigenous community as key areas of development.

## 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 <https://about.unimelb.edu.au/strategy/governance>