

## Position Description

# Research Fellow/Senior Research Fellow - Applied Urban Development

*Position Number: 00071406*  
*Position Title: Research Fellow/Senior Research Fellow - Applied Urban Development*  
*Date Written: February 2019*

*Faculty / Division: Faculty of Medicine*  
*School / Unit: Centre for Primary Health Care and Equity*  
*Position Level: Level B/C*

### 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.



Values in Action  
Our UNSW Behaviours



Builds  
Collaboration



Embraces  
Diversity



Displays  
Respect



Demonstrates  
Excellence



Drives  
Innovation

## 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 Centre for Primary Health Care and Equity (CPHCE) is a UNSW research centre operating from four hub locations: on campus at Randwick, and at South West Sydney Local Health District, Liverpool, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District (SESLHD), Darlinghurst and Sutherland and Sydney Local Health District (SLHD), Camperdown. CPHCE's Mission is to contribute to better, fairer health and health care in the community by conducting research, evaluation and development that strengthens primary health care and addresses health inequities.

This role is within one of these hubs: The Health Equity Research and Development Unit (HERDU) which is part of the Division of Clinical Services Integration and Population Health in the SLHD.

The SLHD's goals include supporting and promoting personal and community health, empowerment and responsibility and a health-promoting environment and works in close partnership with other organisations including the Primary Health Networks to provide an integrated web of primary and community health services across public and private health services.

The SLHD is experiencing a high rate of urban (re)development, with the population expected to increase by 40% by 2030. One example of the sorts of projects expected to contribute to this growth is the redevelopment of the Waterloo Public Housing Estate, current plans for which include an increase in dwellings from approximately 2,000 to 6,800 over the next 15 to 20 years. Given the close relationship between health and the built environment, this presents high levels of both risk and opportunity. If health and wellbeing are not adequately considered in strategies, plans and projects, the health of the local population could be negatively affected for decades to come. Conversely, there is an excellent opportunity to influence this development to facilitate positive health impacts in the short, medium and long term.

In collaboration with the HERDU Director, the Research Fellow/Senior Research Fellow - Applied Urban Development will advocate for and support healthy urban development by conducting Health Impact Assessments (HIAs) on development proposals, conducting research on development projects, and develop guides and checklists that support others to contribute to urban development processes and outcomes.

The role of the Research Fellow/Senior Research Fellow - Applied Urban Development reports to the Director, HERDU and has no direct reports.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

Specific responsibilities for this role include:

### **Research Fellow (Level B)**

- Contribute to the development of a strategic program of urban research, including contributing to the development of research proposals, grant applications, submissions and tenders for commissioned research, and publications.
- Undertake a number of research activities, including Equity Focused Health Impact Assessments, directing, managing and implementing this program of work.
- Managing and contributing to associated research programs and projects within urban development and/or health impact assessment approach, as required.
- Contributing to training programs on health impact assessment and urban development, as required.

- Providing mentoring and supervision of staff and students.
- Maintaining and extending key external partnerships for SLHD, e.g. with Primary Health Networks, Human Services Agencies, Local Government organisations and community groups.
- Act as an advocate for health equity in the workplace and support activities that identify, address and assist to minimise health inequity within the SLHD.
- Ensuring hazards and project risks are identified and controlled for in consultation with the Director, HERDU

### **Senior Research Fellow (Level C)**

In addition to the duties outlined above:

- Lead a strategic program of high-quality urban research that is consistent with the broad aims research aims of the Health Equity Research and Development Unit
- Maintain and grow that program of research through success in application for external research funds, and through the supervision of Higher Degree students.
- Establish and maintain constructive partnerships with government and non-government urban development and community development agencies.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

### **Research Fellow (Level B)**

- A PhD or Masters in Public Health, urban development, planning, geography, or equivalent discipline.
- Strong understanding of urban development policy and practice, including social and/or health impact assessment.
- Demonstrated ability to conceptualise and implement research and evaluation in areas relevant to urban development, and to develop these into research protocols.
- A track record in leading research from conception to implementation (including research protocols) and evaluation in at least one of the following areas: health equity, partnership and inter-sectoral action for health, urban development, community engagement and community development
- Demonstrated ability to establish, build and sustain partnerships including working with government and non-government sectors.
- Evidence of an increasing trajectory of research excellence and productivity, including a proven track recording of peer-reviewed publications, and of potential to lead research projects independently.
- High level organisational and time management skills, as well as excellent interpersonal and communication skills, both written and verbal.
- Experience in teaching / supervision / mentoring of others.
- Ability and capacity to implement required SLHD and UNSW health and safety policies and procedures.

### **Senior Research Fellow (Level C)**

In addition to the criteria outlined above:

- Ability to successful undertake leading-edge research and evidenced by a significant track record in peer-reviewed publications
- Evidence of ability to sustain a program of research in the form of success in applications for external peer-reviewed funds and a record of supervision of Higher Degree students
- Demonstrated commitment and ability supervise higher degree research students.

## PRE-EMPLOYMENT CHECKS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

- Verification of Qualifications

*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.*