



# **RESEARCH FELLOW**

**DEPARTMENT/UNIT** Institute of Vector Borne Disease (IVbD)

FACULTY/DIVISION Provost and Senior Vice-President

CLASSIFICATION Level A

WORK LOCATION Clayton campus

#### ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

Everyone needs a platform to launch a satisfying career. At Monash, we give you the space and support to take your career in all kinds of exciting new directions. You'll have access to quality research, infrastructure and learning facilities, opportunities to collaborate internationally, as well as the grants you'll need to publish your work. We're a university full of energetic and enthusiastic minds, driven to challenge what's expected, expand what we know, and learn from other inspiring, empowering thinkers. Discover more at <a href="https://www.monash.edu">www.monash.edu</a>.

The **Provost & Senior Vice-President** is responsible for: setting and implementing the University's research strategy, improving the academic and research performance of the University; oversight of faculties and university-wide centres and institutes; development of academic staff employment policies and procedures that enable a high performance culture; identifying and developing new research opportunities and clusters, expanding international research collaborations and interdisciplinary areas of excellence.

The Institute of Vector-Borne Disease (IVBD) falls within the Office of the Provost and Senior Vice-President. The primary purpose of the Institute is to spearhead the University's research efforts in eliminating diseases such as dengue fever and Zika. The Institute is home to dedicated laboratory facilities, including a large BSL2 and BSL3 insectary. The Institute houses the World Mosquito Program (WMP) within Monash University, an international collaborative research program designed to prevent the transmission of arboviral diseases threatening the health of people living in tropical and subtropical regions and aims to improve global health whilst significantly reducing the financial burden on local health systems in these regions. The WMP currently operates in 10 countries and is expanding.

# **POSITION PURPOSE**

A Level A research-only academic will contribute towards the research effort of the University and will develop their research expertise through the pursuit of defined projects relevant to the particular field of research.

An exciting opportunity exists for a postdoctoral scientist to join the research program at the Institute for Vector-Borne Disease. The Research Fellow will conduct research on the potential for arboviruses to evolve and escape Wolbachia-mediated inhibition of arbovirus-replication. The project will employ entomological, cell culture and molecular biology approaches to genetically and phenotypically characterise virus populations after continuous

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passage through wild-type and Wolbachia-carrying mosquitoes. The Research Fellow will develop infectious clones to test hypotheses generated from the first phase of work.

**Reporting Line:** The position reports to Professor Cameron Simmons

Supervisory Responsibilities: Not applicable

Financial Delegation: Not applicable

Budget Responsibilities: Not applicable

## **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

Specific duties required of a Level A research-only academic may include:

- 1. The conduct of research under limited supervision either as a member of a team or, where appropriate, independently and the production or contribution to the production of conference and seminar papers and publications from that research
- 2. Involvement in professional activities including, subject to availability of funds, attendance at conferences and seminars in the field of expertise
- 3. Limited administrative functions primarily connected with the area of research of the academic
- **4.** Development of a limited amount of research-related material for teaching or other purposes with appropriate guidance from other staff
- 5. Occasional contributions to teaching in relation to their research project(s)
- **6.** Experimental design and operation of advanced laboratory and technical equipment or conduct of advanced research procedures
- 7. Attendance at meetings associated with research or the work of the organisational unit to which the research is connected and/or at departmental, school and/or faculty meetings and/or membership of a limited number of committees
- **8.** Advice and assistance with supervision within the field of the staff member's research to postgraduate students

## **KEY SELECTION CRITERIA**

#### **Education/Qualifications**

- 1. The appointee will have:
  - A doctoral qualifications in the relevant discipline or a closely related field

#### **Knowledge and Skills**

- **2.** Demonstrated analytical and manuscript preparation skills; including a track record of refereed research publications
- **3.** Ability to solve complex problems by using discretion, innovation and the exercise diagnostic skills and/or expertise
- **4.** Well-developed planning and organisational skills, with the ability to prioritise multiple tasks and set and meet deadlines
- **5.** Excellent written communication and verbal communication skills with proven ability to produce clear, succinct reports and documents
- 6. A demonstrated awareness of the principles of confidentiality, privacy and information handling
- 7. A demonstrated capacity to work in a collegiate manner with other staff in the workplace

- **8.** Demonstrated computer literacy and proficiency in the production of high level work using software such as Microsoft Office applications and specified University software programs, with the capability and willingness to learn new packages as appropriate
- 9. Strong experience in laboratory methods relating to cell culture, molecular biology and DNA sequencing
- 10. Strong experience in generating and manipulating infectious clones of dengue and/or related arboviruses

## OTHER JOB RELATED INFORMATION

- Travel to other campuses of the University may be required
- There may be a requirement to work additional hours from time to time
- There may be peak periods of work during which taking of leave may be restricted

## **LEGAL COMPLIANCE**

Ensure you are aware of and adhere to legislation and University policy relevant to the duties undertaken, including: Equal Employment Opportunity, supporting equity and fairness; Occupational Health and Safety, supporting a safe workplace; Conflict of Interest (including Conflict of Interest in Research); Paid Outside Work; Privacy; Research Conduct; and Staff/Student Relationships.