



POSITION DESCRIPTION

School of BioSciences
Faculty of Science

J.N. Peters Fellow

POSITION NO	0049878
CLASSIFICATION	Research Fellow, Level A6-8
SALARY	\$91,125 - \$97,812 (pro rata for part-time)
SUPERANNUATION	Employer contribution of 9.5%
WORKING HOURS	Full-time (1.0 FTE)
BASIS OF EMPLOYMENT	Fixed-term for 2 years
OTHER BENEFITS	http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers/working/benefits
HOW TO APPLY	Online applications are preferred. Go to http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers , select the relevant option ('Current Opportunities' or 'Jobs available to current staff'), then find the position by title or number.
CONTACT FOR ENQUIRIES ONLY	Name Associate Professor Thérèse Jones Tel +61 3 9035 9576 Email theresa@unimelb.edu.au <i>Please do not send your application to this contact</i>

For information about working for the University of Melbourne, visit our website:
about.unimelb.edu.au/careers

Position Summary

The J.N. Peters Bequest provides funds for an early career researcher to hold the position of J.N. Peters Fellow in the School of BioSciences in the Faculty of Science. The successful candidate must be working in the field of Genetics or Human Biology or otherwise in promoting the study of those subjects, with special reference to the influence of heredity and environment on human characteristics. Eligible candidates must have an agreement with an academic supervisor to host the research project.

You will conduct independent research on your nominated research project topic that could lead to the publication of research outcomes in journals, presentations at conferences and other measures of peer recognition e.g. awards, research grants, fellowships.

The School of BioSciences, Faculty of Science and the University of Melbourne's strategy for Diversity and Inclusion aims to increase the representation of women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and other under-represented groups in our academic workforce. Pursuant to a special measure under Section 12 (1) of the Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic), the School, therefore, strongly encourages applications from suitably qualified candidates from these areas. Additionally, we welcome applications from individuals seeking flexible work arrangements.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants who are seeking support in submitting an application are welcome to contact Siobhan Vivian, Indigenous Development Partner in the Faculty of Science at s.vivian@unimelb.edu.au quoting position number 0049878.

1. Objectives of the J.N. Peters Fellowship

- ▶ Support early career researchers who demonstrate clear evidence of high research potential to progress their research careers in the field of genetics and human biology;
- ▶ Help encourage the establishment of an early career researcher's research program at the University of Melbourne;
- ▶ Provide early career researchers with experience in preparing external grant applications and help enhance their competitiveness in this area;
- ▶ The successful candidate is also expected to provide appropriate acknowledgement of the support of the J.N. Peters Bequest when communicating research outcomes.

2. Research supported

The J.N. Peters Bequest supports excellence in pure and applied research projects in genetics or human biology or otherwise in promoting the study of those subjects, with special reference to the influence of heredity and environment on human characteristics. (Pure research is experimental or theoretical work undertaken to acquire new knowledge without looking for long-term benefits other than the advancement of knowledge. Applied research is original work undertaken primarily to acquire new knowledge with a specific application in view.)

3. Period of award

The position is available for 2 years and must commence before 30 June 2020. A research budget of up to \$50,000 will be provided to the successful applicant and must be expended

during this period. The successful candidate will be required to provide a written report on the outcomes of the project by 31 January 2022. This must be endorsed by the relevant academic host and Head of School.

4. Key Responsibilities

4.1 RESEARCH

- ▶ Independently plan and carry out research in your nominated research project topic and work towards completion of the aims of the project;
- ▶ Initiate and conduct high quality research and contribute to knowledge through scholarship, publications in leading journals and presentations at international conferences;
- ▶ Develop effective timelines and complete milestones based on goals of the research programme;
- ▶ Work towards building an independent research project.

4.2 RESEARCH TRAINING

- ▶ Contribute to training, scientific mentoring and supervision of students and junior research staff in the appointee's area of expertise.

4.3 SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

- ▶ Assist other researchers in order to work as a team and further the School's research output;
- ▶ Attend and actively participate in School and Faculty seminars, meetings and/or committee memberships;
- ▶ Undertake Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) responsibilities as outlined in Section 4.

5. Selection criteria

Selection criteria will be addressed by completing the School of BioSciences J.N. Peters Fellowship 2020 Application Form.

The position is open to suitably qualified persons, irrespective of nationality or residence at the time of application. Appointment of a Fellow from overseas is subject to the Fellow's successful application for an appropriate visa.

The basis of the appointment will be the merit of the candidate and the proposed research project which should build on research activities or interests in genetics and human biology that complement the research strengths of School of BioSciences and Faculty of Science. The project must be discussed and approved by the Head of School.

5.1 ESSENTIAL

- ▶ Completed a PhD, with less than 2 years (full-time equivalent) postdoctoral experience
- ▶ Ability to collaborate with staff in School of BioSciences and Faculty of Science

- ▶ A track record of research capability (relative to opportunity) as evidenced by research outputs in leading publications for the discipline and other measures of peer recognition
- ▶ Excellent written and verbal communication skills, as evidenced by primary roles on publications, invitations to present at conferences and/or articles in the media
- ▶ Demonstrated relevance of the research project to the study of genetics and human biology

5.2 DESIRABLE

- ▶ Experience in supervision of graduate students and/or Honours or Masters students
- ▶ Experience in the submission of grant applications

6. *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.

7. *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/people/community/responsibilities-of-personnel>

These include general staff responsibilities and those additional responsibilities that apply for Managers and Supervisors and other Personnel.

8. *Other Information*

8.1 SCHOOL OF BIOSCIENCES

<http://biosciences.unimelb.edu.au>

The School of BioSciences was formed in 2015 through the amalgamation of the School of Botany and the Departments of Genetics and Zoology thus bringing together a critical mass of 160 Academic staff and 240 Research Higher Degree students undertaking world class teaching and research in the biological sciences. Academics within the School are aligned to 2 research domains - Ecology & Evolutionary Biology and Molecular and Systems Biology. Through cross-disciplinary collaborations within the School and with external partners the School is a major recipient of grant and contract funding.

The School is a major contributor to the Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Biomedical Science and the Environmental Science programs, its teaching program reflecting the research interests within the School.

8.2 FACULTY OF SCIENCE

<https://science.unimelb.edu.au>

Science at the University of Melbourne is among the most highly ranked Faculties of Science in Australia*. Science is defined by its research excellence in the physical and life sciences and is at the forefront of research addressing major societal issues from climate change to disease. Our discoveries help build an understanding of the world around us.

We have over 150 years of experience in pioneering scientific thinking and analysis, leading to outstanding teaching and learning and offer a curriculum based on highly relevant research, which empowers our STEM students and graduates to understand and address complexities that impact real world issues and the challenges of tomorrow.

We aspire to engage the broader community with the impact that Science has on our everyday lives. Through the strength of our internships and research project offerings, our students are provided opportunities to engage with industry partners to solve real-world issues.

The Faculty of Science has over 53,000 alumni and is one of the largest faculties in the University comprising seven schools: BioSciences, Chemistry, Earth Sciences, Ecosystem and Forest Sciences, Geography, Mathematics and Statistics, and Physics.

The Faculty is custodian of the Bio21 Molecular Science and Biotechnology Institute, Office for Environmental Programs, Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute (AMSI) and home to numerous Centres.

Science manages more than \$315 million of income per annum, with a staff base in the order of 290 professional staff, and more than 630 academic staff.

We offer a range of undergraduate, honours, graduate and research degrees; enrolling over 9,700 undergraduate and 2,400 graduate students. The Faculty of Science is the custodial Faculty for the BSc (Bachelor of Science). The Faculty of Science is a leader in research, contributing approximately \$80 million in HERDC income per annum. The Faculty of Science is highly research focused, performing strongly in the ARC competitive grants schemes, often out-performing the national average. The Faculty of Science is currently growing its competitiveness and standing in the NHMRC space.

**Based on 2018-19 subject rankings by QS and Time Higher Education*

8.3 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>.

8.4 GROWING ESTEEM, THE MELBOURNE CURRICULUM AND RESEARCH AT MELBOURNE: ENSURING EXCELLENCE AND IMPACT TO 2025

Growing Esteem describes Melbourne's strategy to achieve its aspiration to be a public-spirited and internationally-engaged institution, highly regarded for making distinctive contributions to society in research and research training, learning and teaching, and engagement. <http://about.unimelb.edu.au/strategy-and-leadership>

The University is at the forefront of Australia's changing higher education system and offers a distinctive model of education known collectively as the Melbourne Curriculum. The new educational model, designed for an outstanding experience for all students, is based on six broad undergraduate programs followed by a graduate professional degree, research higher degree or entry directly into employment. The emphasis on academic breadth as well as disciplinary depth in the new degrees ensures that graduates will have the capacity to succeed in a world where knowledge boundaries are shifting and reforming to create new frontiers and challenges. In moving to the new model, the University is also aligning itself with the best of emerging European and Asian practice and well-established North American traditions.

The University's global aspirations seek to make significant contributions to major social, economic and environmental challenges. Accordingly, the University's research strategy *Research at Melbourne: Ensuring Excellence and Impact to 2025* aspires to a significant advancement in the excellence and impact of its research outputs. <http://research.unimelb.edu.au/our-research/research-at-melbourne>

The strategy recognises that as a public-spirited, research-intensive institution of the future, the University must strive to make a tangible impact in Australia and the world, working across disciplinary and sectoral boundaries and building deeper and more substantive engagement with industry, collaborators and partners. While cultivating the fundamental enabling disciplines through investigator-driven research, the University has adopted three grand challenges aspiring to solve some of the most difficult problems facing our world in the next century. These Grand Challenges include:

- ▶ Understanding our place and purpose – The place and purpose grand challenge centres on understanding all aspects of our national identity, with a focus on Australia's 'place' in the Asia-Pacific region and the world, and on our 'purpose' or mission to improve all dimensions of the human condition through our research.
- ▶ Fostering health and wellbeing – The health and wellbeing grand challenge focuses on building the scale and breadth of our capabilities in population and global health; on harnessing our contribution to the 'convergence revolution' of biomedical and health research, bringing together the life sciences, engineering and the physical

sciences; and on addressing the physical, mental and social aspects of wellbeing by looking beyond the traditional boundaries of biomedicine.

- ▶ Supporting sustainability and resilience – The sustainability and resilience grand challenge addresses the critical issues of climate change, water and food security, sustainable energy and designing resilient cities and regions. In addition to the technical aspects, this grand challenge considers the physical and social functioning of cities, connecting physical phenomena with lessons from our past, and the implications of the technical solutions for economies, living patterns and behaviours.

Essential to tackling these challenges, an outstanding faculty, high performing students, wide collaboration including internationally and deep partnerships with external parties form central components of Research at Melbourne: Ensuring Excellence and Impact to 2025.

8.5 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 <http://www.unimelb.edu.au/governance>