

**Position Title:** Senior Lecturer (Exercise / Health / Sport Psychology)

Position Classification: Level C

Position Number: NEW

Faculty/Office: Faculty of Science

School/Division: Human Sciences

Centre/Section:

Supervisor Title: Head of School

**Supervisor Position Number:** 303028

## Your work area

A member of Australia's elite Group of Eight institutions, The University of Western Australia (UWA) is rated above world standard in nearly 40 fields of research – around 80% of these are science fields. Exercise, health, and sport science at UWA is a discipline within The School of Human Sciences, which is one of six Schools within UWA's Faculty of Science. We have world-leading expertise in the Faculty across a range of disciplines that include not only exercise, health, and sport, but also psychological science and other aspects of human sciences. The Faculty of Science at UWA is also home to internationally recognised researchers and groups with expertise in diverse areas including agricultural, biological, chemical, earth, environmental, and molecular sciences.

The quality of UWA's exercise, health, and sport science research and teaching is recognised internationally – in all three of Australia's 'Excellence in Research for Australia' assessments, the discipline has been rated above or well above world standard. The Academic Ranking of World Universities places UWA in the top 20 institutions worldwide for exercise, health, and sport science, and UWA ranked 24th in the world for Sports-Related Subjects in the 2019 QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) rankings. These rankings reflect the quality of our staff, our strong undergraduate and postgraduate programs, the School's capacity to attract substantial grant funding to support innovative research and programs, the commitment to knowledge translation and real-world outcomes, and the citation rates and impact of our work. Staff in the discipline are known not only for their commitment to excellent research and teaching, but also for their engagement with, and positive impact on, the communities and groups with whom they work. UWA also ranks exceptionally strongly in related subject areas. UWA's School of Psychological Sciences, for example, is one of only two disciplines Australia-wide to have received the highest rating ('well above world standard') for Psychology in each of the three rounds of the Excellence in Research for Australia assessment.

The School of Human Sciences is home to over 60 academic staff. More than 20 of those staff members specialise in areas related to exercise, health, and sport sciences, and those staff are supported by over 75 PhD students. Staff in the area of exercise, health, and sport psychology at UWA provide an exceptional educational experience to undergraduate and postgraduate students, and high-quality research and community outreach activity is conducted in this area by the Psychology of Active, Healthy Living (PAHL) Group. The PAHL Group, chaired at UWA by Associate Professor Ben Jackson, was formed in 2012. The group works closely with researchers, students, industry, government, the non-profit sector, and the media, and is committed to exercise/health research and community health promotion programs that achieve real-world impact. PAHL's mission is to harness the 'power of people' in promoting mental and physical health in individuals from all walks of life. To achieve that goal, the group (a) conducts research that advances our understanding of a range of health issues, (b) develops, delivers, and evaluates community health promotion programs and interventions, and (c) works to ensure that PAHL's programs are embedded long-term in

communities. The group works on issues such as behaviour change, confidence, motivation, resilience, social support, and communication, and uses that work to help people lead happier and healthier lives. Potential applicants can learn more about some of PAHL's work in this <u>short video</u> and this <u>article</u>. PAHL's work is also supported by the substantial expertise that exists in the School in the areas of health promotion and public health. Research and community programs developed and delivered by staff across this discipline generate significant funding support from local and national agencies, and the community programs are widely recognised for their positive impact on people's physical and mental health.

The School is looking to appoint an exceptional individual to build on our current capacity in exercise, health, and sport psychology. For further information, please contact Associate Professor Ben Jackson (ben.jackson@uwa.edu.au)

# **Reporting Structure**

Reports to: Head of School

## Your role

The appointee will occupy a 'balanced' teaching/research position within the School of Human Sciences. As such, the appointee will contribute to School activities across teaching, research, and service. The appointee will make a strong contribution to the School's undergraduate and postgraduate teaching portfolio in the areas of exercise / health / sport psychology and behaviour change. The appointee's research activity will support the School's goals for high-quality, high-impact work, and will be embedded primarily in the established themes, activities, and programs of the PAHL group (and PAHL's health promotion research partners within the School and University).

The appointee will be expected to contribute to research through high-quality publications in strong outlets, seeking and securing external grant funding, generating and strengthening relationships with external agencies and partners (e.g., government, industry, media, non-profit), and the recruitment and team-based supervision of postgraduate students. Importantly, the appointee will also be expected make a strong commitment and contribution to the School's and PAHL's mission for knowledge translation and real-world impact. The appointee will make an active contribution to service within the School, Faculty, University, and his/her field, and will show the capacity for developing as a leader at UWA.

## Key responsibilities

#### Research, Scholarship, and Impact

- Make a strong contribution to, and expand, the research and community programming activity of the PAHL group and School.
- Work with staff in the PAHL group and health promotion discipline more broadly to create and deliver high-quality research and community program activities.
- Lead the dissemination of research in ways that will enhance the reputation of the appointee, the groups mentioned above, the School, and University (e.g., publication in highly ranked peer reviewed journals, industry workshops and reports, impact case studies, generating media interest).
- Develop a network of contacts with research, industry, government, non-profit, community stakeholders, and media partners for the purposes of research collaboration, project/idea generation, grant funding, high-quality output, dissemination, and real-world translation and impact.
- Regularly lead research funding applications with local, national, and international funding agencies, and with other (e.g., industry, government) partners.
- Make an ongoing commitment to the School's team-based research agenda, with an emphasis on generating substantial community impact and knowledge translation opportunities.

#### **Teaching and Learning**

- Contribute to high-quality teaching and unit coordination.
- Provide high-quality supervision of Honours, Masters, and PhD research projects.
- Take an active role in undergraduate and/or postgraduate education policy, curriculum development, and teaching to ensure an excellent student experience.

#### **Service**

- Contribute to governance and the supportive atmosphere within the School, across the Faculty and University, and more broadly outside the institution, including providing leadership in School and Faculty governance.
- Work within the legislative requirements of the University and support the University's commitment to equity.
- Represent and promote UWA through involvement in professional associations, conferences, media
  partnerships, non-academic (e.g., government, non-profit, industry) partnerships, and other external
  activities.
- Attend School and Faculty meetings as required, and seek out opportunities to expand the School's reputation within and beyond the University.
- Other duties as directed by the Head of School.

# Your specific work capabilities (selection criteria)

Hold a PhD in exercise, health, or sport psychology, and / or behaviour change, or a closely related area.

Have a strong research track record in one or more of the core areas (e.g. exercise, health, or sport psychology and/or behaviour change), including an established record of publication in high-quality journals and evidence of successful funding applications (relative to opportunity).

Have evidence of a commitment to research and community programming that generates real-world impact, and the capacity to achieve and document such impact.

Have made an outstanding contribution to teaching in one or more of the core areas, and display a willingness to develop curriculum and a commitment to enhancing the student experience at UWA.

Demonstrate evidence of a strong track record in the supervision of Honours, Masters and PhD students.

Have excellent interpersonal and communication skills, a team-focused approach to academic work, and have displayed evidence of (or a willingness to engage in) academic entrepreneurship.

Have displayed a capacity to generate productive partnerships and work with diverse academic and non-academic groups.

Have experience in the successful development and implementation of School, Faculty and University policy, and the capacity to effectively handle administrative matters.

Show significant evidence of the ability to effectively represent the discipline and School at Faculty and University levels, and to engage in highly effective communication with members of the community, professional bodies, industry, government and/or advisory groups.

## Special Requirements

No special requirements

## Compliance

# **Workplace Health and Safety**

All supervising staff are required to undertake effective measures to ensure compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984 and related University requirements (including Safety, Health and Wellbeing Objectives and Targets).

All staff must comply with requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act and all reasonable directives given in relation to health and safety at work, to ensure compliance with University and Legislative health and safety requirements.

Details of the safety obligations can be accessed at <a href="http://www.safety.uwa.edu.au">http://www.safety.uwa.edu.au</a>

## **Inclusion & Diversity**

All staff members are required to comply with the University's Code of Ethics, Code of Conduct and Inclusion and Diversity principles. Details of the University policies on these can be accessed at <a href="http://www.hr.uwa.edu.au/policies/policies/conduct/code">http://www.hr.uwa.edu.au/policies/policies/conduct/code</a>, <a href="http://www.hr.uwa.edu.au/inclusion-diversity">http://www.hr.uwa.edu.au/inclusion-diversity</a>.