



POSITION DESCRIPTION

School of Geography
Faculty of Science

Research Fellow in Environmental Change and Everyday Lives

POSITION NO	0049225
CLASSIFICATION	Level A
SALARY	\$72,083 - \$97,812 pa (PhD entry level \$91,125)
SUPERANNUATION	Employer contribution of 9.5%
WORKING HOURS	Full-Time (1.0 FTE)
BASIS OF EMPLOYMENT	Fixed-Term for 18 months
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 Staff' or 'Prospective Staff'), then find the position by title or number.
CONTACT FOR ENQUIRIES ONLY	Dr Celia McMichael Tel +61 3 8344 6704 Email celia.mcmichael@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

This Research Fellow position is part of a research team working on an Australian Research Council Discovery project, titled “Sea-level rise and everyday lives in small island states”. This position involves the design of data collection activities, fieldwork across various sites (specifically in Fiji), data management and analysis, contribution to research outputs including journal articles, and working closely with other members of the research team.

The project at large aims to advance understanding of the impacts of sea-level rise, other climate impacts and associated policy responses on the everyday lives of low-lying island communities. It focuses particularly on accommodation, relocation, and fortification/protection in Fiji and in the Maldives. It will use qualitative and visual methods to analyse people's everyday experiences and practices. The project aims to produce findings of significance for countries facing the threat of sea-level rise, and national governments and international agencies that support and fund climate adaptation. The research team includes Dr Celia McMichael (University of Melbourne), Dr Karen McNamara (University of Queensland), Prof Uma Kothari (University of Melbourne), and Dr Alex Arnall (University of Reading, UK).

The position will be based in the School of Geography at the University of Melbourne, supervised by Dr Celia McMichael and Prof Uma Kothari; there is also the option to work closely with Dr Karen McNamara at the University of Queensland. It provides an excellent opportunity for further development of a career in academic research.

1. Key Responsibilities

1.1 RESEARCH AND RESEARCH TRAINING

You are expected to significantly contribute towards the research effort of the team and to develop your research expertise with an increasing degree of autonomy.

- ▶ Significantly contribute towards the research efforts of the team and develop research expertise with an increasing degree of autonomy;
- ▶ Undertake original research, including research design, data collection, data analysis and literature reviews to meet the objectives of the ARC Discovery project;
- ▶ Contribute to and publish high impact academic papers and other scholarly outputs on topics relevant to the ARC Discovery project;
- ▶ Contribute to the preparation, or where appropriate individual preparation of research proposal submissions to internal or external funding bodies as relevant.
- ▶ Present research findings in seminars and conferences to disseminate project findings;
- ▶ Actively participate in research seminars and conferences to disseminate research findings as opportunities arise
- ▶ Undertake administrative functions and obligations primarily connected with the ARC Discovery project;
- ▶ Engage with relevant professional and industry bodies and stakeholders to foster collaborative partnerships
- ▶

1.2 TEACHING AND LEARNING

- ▶ Contribute to training and mentoring of any students involved in the Discovery project, together with other members of the research team.
- ▶ Contribute to teaching, training, scientific mentoring and supervision of students
- ▶ Contribute to the effective supervision of junior research staff in the appointee's area of expertise

1.3 LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

- ▶ Actively participate at School meetings and with guidance, contribute to planning activities or committee work to support capacity building in the School/discipline.
- ▶ Contribute to, or present research to the public to elevate public awareness of educational and scientific developments, and promote critical enquiry and public debate within the community where appropriate
- ▶ Effective demonstration and promotion of University values including diversity and inclusion and high standards of ethics and integrity;
- ▶ Actively contribute to School activities such as Open day to promote student engagement.

1.4 OTHER DUTIES

- ▶ Perform other tasks as requested by the supervisor or the Head of School;
- ▶ Actively participate in the University Professional Development Framework;
- ▶ Ensure an up-to-date record of University compliance courses, such as, but not limited to, Appropriate Workplace Behaviour, PDF for Staff and Supervisors, OH &S training courses.
- ▶ Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) responsibilities as outlined in section 4.

2. Selection Criteria

2.1 ESSENTIAL

- ▶ Completion of a PhD in Human Geography, or a related discipline;
- ▶ Demonstrated experience in conducting qualitative research internationally, with a focus on climate adaptation and/or climate-related mobility;
- ▶ A demonstrated aptitude for independent research, commensurate with experience and opportunities;
- ▶ Availability to travel to conduct research and to work with research partners for extended periods of up to 4 weeks (per trip), for up to three trips per year;
- ▶ Experience and/or understanding of Pacific, Indian Ocean and/or other small island states;
- ▶ Demonstrated ability to prepare research reports and manuscripts for publication, with a sound publication record in relevant areas;
- ▶ Strong evidence of ability and desire to build an academic research career trajectory;
- ▶ Demonstrated ability to engage with relevant professional and stakeholders;
- ▶ Excellent interpersonal and both written and oral communication skills in English;

- ▶ Excellent ability to work co-operatively in a multi-disciplinary research-based team environment and liaise with people from diverse backgrounds;
- ▶ Demonstrated excellent organisational skills to meet deadlines and to design and bring projects to a timely completion with limited supervision.

2.2 DESIRABLE

- ▶ The ability to attract external funding through grant applications and/or support in funded joint projects with others internal or external to the university;
- ▶ Experience in assisting with supervision of students undertaking undergraduate or higher degree research projects.
- ▶ Demonstrated knowledge of research and policy focused on climate change-related mobility and adaptation in vulnerable areas (including the Pacific Islands and other small island states).

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 service 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 SCHOOL OF GEOGRAPHY

<http://www.geography.unimelb.edu.au/>

In 2015 the School of Geography was formed within the Faculty of Science. The research and teaching strengths of Geography are in international development, urbanisation, earth surface processes, and biogeography. Environmental change is an overarching theme of interest and is analysed with reference to both social and natural sciences. Geography teaching is currently in the following programs: undergraduate majors in Geography are offered in the BSc and the BA; Masters teaching is in the MSc (Geography) and in the University-wide Master of Environment; research teaching is in the MPhil and PhD. The School is now embarking on an exciting period of growth. It aims to be Australia's pre-eminent Geography program, and a world-leading centre for geographical research. Information on the School of Geography can be found on the website.

5.2 FACULTY OF SCIENCE

<http://www.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 QA and Time Higher Education

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 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>

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