

Position Description

Senior Research Associate

Position Number: 00050985
Position Title: Senior Research Associate
Date Written: 15 October 2019

Faculty / Division: UNSW Business School
School / Unit: ARC Centre of Excellence in
Population Ageing Research
Position Level: Level B

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.



Delivers high performance and demonstrates service excellence.



Thinks creatively and develops new ways of working. Initiates and embraces change.



Works effectively within and across teams. Builds relationships with internal and external stakeholders to deliver on outcomes.



Values individual differences and contributions of all people and promotes inclusion.



Treats others with dignity and empathy. Communicates with integrity and openness.

OVERVIEW OF RELEVANT AREA AND POSITION SUMMARY

UNSW Business School is a leader in business education and research in the Asian region and one of the largest Business Schools in Australia with more than 16,500 students, 500 academic and professional staff and more than 80,000 alumni and partners. The Business School offers a full suite of business degree programs at undergraduate, postgraduate, coursework and research levels, including the AGSM MBA programs and a range of Executive Programs. Its direction is guided by a business advisory council of leading CEOs, chairpersons and other business leaders.

The Business School's reputation is built on its outstanding staff, students and alumni and a cultural diversity which ensures an international focus. It also has a long history of deep industry engagement, and takes pride in the impact it has through its educational and research activities. The School is frequently ranked among the top 50 in the world, and in some areas among the top 20, according to global indicators. For further information, see: <https://www.business.unsw.edu.au/>

Established in 2011, the ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research (CEPAR) is a collaboration between academia, government and industry. Located in the UNSW Business School, CEPAR is administered by the University of New South Wales (UNSW). The Centre includes nodes at the University of Sydney, the Australian National University (ANU), the University of Melbourne and Curtin University. In addition, it has sixteen (16) official partners drawn from industry, government and academe and collaborates with more than forty institutions nationally and internationally. The Centre also has close links with the Schools of Economics and Risk and Actuarial Studies in the UNSW Business School.

The Senior Research Associate (Level B academic) will perform research and collaborate with investigators on actuarial and financial aspects of mortality and health risk with applications to retirement policy under the supervision of the Chief Investigator. In particular, the research will involve development of longevity and health risk models and optimal design of health and aged care insurance products with applications to various public sector support policies for retirement incomes, such as alternative public debt instruments which may help immunize exposure to inflation and systematic longevity risk by insurers; the cost of public "tail-risk" cover and the potential benefits to retirement product pricing and marketing; the impact of various tax and subsidy measures as incentives for retirement product purchase.

The role of Senior Research Associate reports to the Chief Investigator and has no direct reports.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Specific responsibilities for this role include:

- Develop, assess and apply original research concepts for the research aims of the project in the area of developing longevity and health risk models and the optimal design of health and aged care insurance products with applications to various public sector support policies for retirement incomes.
- Develop and assess models, software, databases, computational techniques for the research project.
- Analyse and interpret data and communicate results.
- Assist with the preparation of manuscripts, abstracts, and grant applications as appropriate.
- Collaborate with investigators including industry contacts on model development and applications under the research project.
- Interact with project researchers, industry partners and research students and participate in project meetings and discussions.
- Timely and high quality production of research working papers, conference proceedings and journal publications in the project research topic areas.
- Present to academic and industry conferences, internationally and locally.
- Pursue and develop an active research program in collaboration with research project investigators and research students as agreed with supervisor.

- Assist with organisation of symposium and conferences for presentation of project research outcomes.
- Assist with supervision of research students and research assistants involved with the project.
- Perform administrative duties required for the project.
- Cooperate with all health and safety policies and procedures of the university and take all reasonable care to ensure that your actions or omissions do not impact on the health and safety of yourself or others.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- A PhD in actuarial studies or related disciplines such as mathematical statistics, risk management, economics, or quantitative finance, or an equivalent qualification. (If PhD is not in actuarial studies, exposure to actuarial science or quantitative risk modelling in either undergraduate, masters or industry experience).
- Evidence of strong performance in research in a field relevant to the project including longevity and health risk.
- High level competency in computing modelling techniques and data analysis skills.
- Excellent communication skills in writing research papers and in presenting research.
- Proven ability to work both independently and as a member of a multi-disciplinary team.
- Knowledge of health and safety responsibilities and commitment to attending relevant health and safety training.

PRE-EMPLOYMENT CHECKS REQUIRED

Based on the duties, responsibilities and requirements of this position, an appointment to this position is subject to a satisfactory completion of the following pre-employment checks:

- Verification of academic 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.