

# POSITION DESCRIPTION

Melbourne School of Psychological Sciences Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences

# **Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Exercise and Cancer**

POSITION NO	0054195
CLASSIFICATION	Research Fellow
SALARY	\$75,289.00 - \$102,163.00 p.a.
WORK FOCUS CATEGORY	Academic Research
SUPERANNUATION	Employer contribution of 17%
EMPLOYMENT TYPE	Full Time (1FTE)
OTHER BENEFITS	http://hr.unimelb.edu.au/careers/working/benefits
CURRENT OCCUPANT	New
CURRENT OCCUPANT	New Online applications are preferred. Go to http://hr.unimelb.edu.au/careers, under 'Job Search and Job Alerts', select the relevant option ('Current Staff' or 'Prospective Staff'), then find the position by title or number.

For information about working for the University of Melbourne, visit our websites:

hr.unimelb.edu.au/careers joining.unimelb.edu.au

## **Position Summary**

The Melbourne Centre for Behaviour Change, within the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, is seeking to appoint an outstanding research fellow to work across two digital health intervention studies on exercise and behaviour change for cancer recovery. The successful applicant will report to Dr Camille Short who holds a joint position between the Melbourne School of Psychological Sciences and the Melbourne School of Health Sciences. The role provides an opportunity to work as part of a cross disciplinary team, with expertise in digital health, exercise prescription, behaviour change and public health. The projects are funded by the National Breast Cancer Foundation and the Victoria Cancer Agency and have potential to produce high impact outcomes, including improved quality of life for cancer patients and enhanced supportive care services.

The successful applicant will show evidence of the capacity to work as a member of a crossdisciplinary research team, experience with project management, an ability to interrogate data and effectively communicate results. The successful applicant will be integrated into the senior investigators research teams, including the Melbourne Centre for Behaviour Change, and the Physiotherapy Rehabilitation Research Group.

As an Academic staff member, the successful applicant is expected to support the broad ethos of the associated Schools and the School's compliance with University policies and procedures, including environmental health and safety as well as the Faculty's and the University's values.

## 1. Key Responsibilities

## 1.1 RESEARCH AND RESEARCH TRAINING

- To support the principal investigators to conduct original research within the context of the research projects, independently and in collaboration with others. This includes obtaining necessary approvals, contributing to intervention development, assisting with recruitment of participants and supporting data acquisition (mostly remotely), data processing, and data analysis.
- To disseminate research findings through seminars, conference presentations, and publication in peer-reviewed international journals.
- To support the principal investigators with applications for additional research funding from national competitive granting agencies and other sources in the context of the research project.
- To supervise or co-supervise student research at fourth-year (Honours) level and to contribute to research training activities within the context of the research projects.

## **1.2 LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE**

To contribute to the development of partnerships and relationships with other schools, departments, and centres in the wider University, as required for this project.

## **1.3 ENGAGEMENT**

To participate in activities that strengthen the links between the University and the community and assist with the dissemination and utilisation of knowledge. This public engagement may include e.g., writing of media articles, giving public lectures, or engaging in social media.

To develop productive collaborations with external partners, as required for this project.

## 1.4 OTHER

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

- A PhD or equivalent research higher degree in an area of psychology, physiotherapy, exercise physiology, medicine, or cognate discipline.
- Strong interest in research related to exercise and behaviour change, and/or health services and supportive care for cancer.
- Highly developed organisational skills and demonstrated project management skills.
- Very strong written and oral communications skills.
- Developing track record in independent and team-based research.
- A capacity to work both independently and as a member of a team to deliver high-quality research outcomes.

### 2.2 DESIRABLE

- A track record of intervention development and evaluation research, especially with a focus on exercise, behaviour change and/or digital health.
- Experience working with clinical populations.
- Experience conducting research within a hospital setting, including obtaining necessary approvals.
- Experience conducting exercise-related outcome assessments (e.g., 6 minute walk test, cardiopulmonary exercise testing).
- Experience in the research supervision or co-supervision of fourth year and/or postgraduate students.

## 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 strive 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:

https://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.

## 5. Other Information

## 5.1 MELBOURNE SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES

#### www.psychologicalsciences.unimelb.edu.au

The Melbourne School of Psychological Sciences is one of six schools within the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences. It is consistently ranked one of the top Schools of Psychology in Australia and was ranked 17<sup>th</sup> in the world in the 2020 QS global rankings. The School is undergoing vigorous growth and attracts some of the best students nationally and internationally to its broad range of APS accredited undergraduate, graduate, professional, and research programs.

The School's teaching is underpinned by excellence in research across a range of fields, including cognitive and behavioural neuroscience, cognitive and mathematical psychology, social and personality psychology, and clinical science. Research links extend across 25 departments, centres and institutes within the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, including The Melbourne Brain Centre, The Murdoch Children's Research Institute, ORYGEN Youth Research Centre, Austin Health, the Royal Melbourne Hospital, the Royal Children's Hospital, the Royal Women's Hospital, and St. Vincent's Hospital. Research links are also embedded in a broad range of other disciplines across the University including within the Faculties of the Victorian College of the Arts and Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, Science, Business and Economics, Education, Engineering, Law, and the Melbourne Business School.

The School is home to a vibrant community of >90 academic, teaching, research and professional staff, over 140 honorary staff, 100 tutors, and 120 PhD students. In 2020, there were over 5,500 students enrolled in undergraduate subjects offered by Psychological Sciences, primarily through the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Biomedicine, but also in breadth subjects in the Bachelor of Commerce,

Bachelor of Environments, and Bachelor of Music. There were about 200 students enrolled in the Graduate Diploma of Psychology, about 140 students enrolled in fourth year programs (B. A.(Hons), B.Sc.(Hons), and the Graduate Diploma of Psychology (Advanced) and around 130 students enrolled in our professional postgraduate programs (Clinical and Clinical Neuropsychology and combined Masters/PhD programs).

## 5.2 MELBOURNE SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Established in 2009, the Melbourne School of Heath Sciences is an inter-professional learning community at the forefront of leadership in health sciences education, clinical research, scholarship, professional practice, workforce training and knowledge exchange that contributes to local, national and global efforts to improve health and wellbeing. The Health Sciences School educates graduate entry and post-graduate students in the disciplines of Nursing, Social Work, Physiotherapy and other non-medical health sciences through accredited programs tailored to workforce needs nationally and internationally. It provides national and international health sciences students with professional training to enable them to be competent and effective health professionals who are work ready, eligible for registration and practitioners. It also delivers professional education courses and training for the health sciences professions and builds strong relationships and active programs of interaction with the alumni in each discipline. A key aim is to continue to build effective collaborations with clinicians, patients, the healthcare sector, the research community, governments, industry partners and communities in Australia and internationally. The School currently comprises approximately 60 full continuing academic staff and 30 continuing professional staff as well as more than 200 sessional and contract staff. In addition, there are more than 200 honorary appointments within Health Sciences.

Further information about School of Health Sciences is available at:

http//www.healthsciences.unimelb.edu.au

#### 5.3 FACULTY OF MEDICINE, DENTISTRY AND HEALTH SCIENCES

#### www.mdhs.unimelb.edu.au

The Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences (MDHS) plays a vital role in the delivery of the University of Melbourne's Strategic Plan 2015-2020: Growing Esteem by providing current and future generations with education and research equal to the best in the world. It is Australia's largest and leading biomedical research faculty. It employs more than 1,700 members of staff, has more than 8,000 students, and total revenue of \$607 million for 2015. Reflecting the complexity of today's global health landscape, the Faculty is made up of six different Schools and four Strategic Research Initiatives, and draws together all areas of human health, ranging from the most basic to the most applied areas of research. The Faculty contributes close to 50 per cent of research conducted at the University.

The Faculty has appointed Australia's first Associate Dean (Indigenous Development) to lead the development and implementation of the Faculty's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), which will be aligned with the broader University-wide plan. To enable the Faculty to improve its Indigenous expertise knowledge base, the Faculty's RAP will address Indigenous employment, Indigenous student recruitment and retention, Indigenous

cultural recognition and building partnerships with the Indigenous community as key areas of development.

## 5.4 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

## 5.5 ADVANCING MELBOURNE

The University's strategic direction is grounded in its purpose. While its expression may change, our purpose is enduring: to benefit society through the transformative impact of education and research. Together, the vision and purpose inform the focus and scale of our aspirations for the coming decade.

Advancing Melbourne reflects the University's commitment to its people, its place, and its partners. Our aspiration for 2030 is to be known as a world-leading and globally connected Australian university, with our students at the heart of everything we do.

We will offer students a distinctive and outstanding education and experience, preparing them for success as leaders, change agents and global citizens.

We will be recognised locally and globally for our leadership on matters of national and global importance, through outstanding research and scholarship and a commitment to collaboration.

We will be empowered by our sense of place and connections with communities. We will take opportunities to advance both the University and the City of Melbourne in close collaboration and synergy.

We will deliver this through building a brilliant, diverse and vibrant University community, with strong connections to those we serve.

The means for achieving these goals include the development of the University of Melbourne's academic and professional staff and the capabilities needed to support a modern, world-class university. Those means require a commitment to ongoing financial sustainability and an ambitious infrastructure program which will reshape the campus and our contribution to the communities we engage with. This strategy, and the priorities proposed, is centred around five intersecting themes: place, community, education, discovery and global.

#### 5.6 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 https://about.unimelb.edu.au/strategy/governance