



Position Description

Associate Professor

Never Stand Still

Human Resources

Level:	D	Date:	October 2016
School:	School of Medical Sciences	Faculty:	UNSW Medicine
Written by:	Professor Gary Housley		

POSITION SUMMARY

The appointed Associate Professor will be expected to make a significant contribution to excellence in research within the area of translational neuroscience. The position, which is for a research-focused academic, requires outstanding research capacity and effective leadership. The appointee will be expected to establish a research team that complements the activities of the Translational Neuroscience Facility in the School of Medical Sciences. This includes establishing a research program that engages biotechnology and / or pharma stemming from discovery-based research. The appointee will also contribute to teaching within the broad discipline of Physiology and to the various undergraduate programs supported by the School, including Medicine, Medical Science, Science and Advanced Science.

ORGANISATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Overview of the Faculty/School/Divisional Work Unit

UNSW Medicine is a national leader in learning, teaching and research, with close affiliations to a number of Australia's finest hospitals, research institutes and health care organisations. With a strong presence at UNSW Kensington campus, the faculty have staff and students in teaching hospitals in Sydney as well as regional and rural areas of NSW including Albury/Wodonga, Wagga Wagga, Coffs Harbour and Port Macquarie.

The School of Medical Sciences (SoMS) is the largest School within UNSW Medicine, and one of the largest at UNSW. The School is based largely within the Wallace Wurth (Medicine) Building on the Kensington campus, but also includes the Museum of Human Disease in the Samuels Building and the UNSW Lifestyle Clinic on High Street, Randwick.

The role will operate within the Department of Physiology, located on level 3 of the Wallace Wurth building. The Department of Physiology research includes the Cellular and Systems

Physiology cluster, with broad capabilities in muscle, vascular and sensory physiology and membrane biophysics, and the Translational Neuroscience Facility (TNF) which is a core neuroscience research platform in the School of Medical Sciences with research interests in sensory transduction, spinal cord repair, memory and plasticity and pain. The TNF broadly supports neuroscience research and advanced translational research training directed towards treatment of neurological disorders

Statistics

The School has over 300 staff, more than 155 higher degree research students and over 5,000 undergraduate students in over 90 separate courses and 5 programs.

The School is also home to over 120 Conjoint members who contribute significantly to the School's work, from their bases within all major teaching hospitals and Medical Research Institutes affiliated with UNSW.

The School's yearly consolidated operating budget is \$19.2 million and is engaged in active research programs of approximately \$16 million with several sources of external funding including the National Health and Medical Research Council, the Australian Research Council and the National Heart Foundation.

For further information, please refer to the School's website: <http://medalsciences.med.unsw.edu.au/>.

Reporting Relationships

Supervisor's title: Head of Department of Physiology

Other positions reporting to the supervisor: Academic, Research and Administrative Staff affiliated with the Department

Positions reporting to this position: N/A

KEY DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Engage, innovate and provide excellence in research in the physiological sciences, aligned to core research strengths in the Department of Physiology working to address contemporary health challenges in the area of Neuroscience, Mental Health & Addiction.
- Support advancement of the understanding of the physiological sciences through research contributions by initiating applications for external research funds, publication of research findings in high-impact journals, and providing a high standard of supervision of undergraduate Project, Honours and Higher Degree Research students
- Teach Physiology to undergraduate Science and Medicine students, including direct support for course convenors in student administration and assessment as required.

- Work closely with the Head of Department of Physiology to ensure that teaching and research are integrated as a continuum essential for the maintenance of the highest standards of teaching
- Participate in the development and design of course materials including material for technology-enhanced learning.
- Maintain a sound governance framework for research activities that includes appropriate administration, reporting, documentation and compliance of research activities in accordance with all relevant UNSW policies
- Engage in high quality research projects and attract competitive grants
- The development of and responsibility for curriculum/programs of study and lead the course coordination
- Supervision of major honours or postgraduate research projects
- Mentor and supervise students, including at undergraduate and postgraduate level
- Marking and assessment
- Contribute to/participate in Departmental meetings and relevant professional development activities within the School.
- Establish and maintain strong working relationships and effective liaison with staff and stakeholders of the School, Faculty and the University
- Ensure hazards and risks are identified and controlled for tasks, projects and activities that pose a health and safety risk within your area of responsibility

SELECTION CRITERIA

- PhD within neuroscience;
- Demonstrated commitment and ability to build a translational neuroscience research – focused team;
- A record of outstanding leadership and achievements in learning, teaching and supervision at undergraduate and postgraduate levels in a University or professional setting
- Recognised research leader with outstanding research record as evidenced by research funding, publications in top tier journals and successful higher degree supervision
- Demonstrated ability in undergraduate teaching within the neurosciences;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Highly developed interpersonal skills with the ability to work with staff and students from diverse backgrounds.
- Excellent organisational skills and attention to detail, and ability to contribute to administration in an academic environment;
- Evidence of effective professional engagement;
- Ability and capacity to implement required UNSW health and safety policies and procedures

PRE EMPLOYMENT CHECKS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

- Verification of 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.