

Post Doctoral Fellow (NH&MRC)

FACULTY OF MEDICINE
SCHOOL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
REF. 6787

Salary Level A: A\$68,483 - A\$73,250 per year (plus employer superannuation plus leave loading)

The School of Medical Sciences is seeking an experienced and well organised researcher to undertake day-to-day responsibility for an NHMRC-funded project regarding neurochemicals in human and animal bladders. Some liaison will be required with research and hospital staff located in other institutions.

This is a fixed term full time position available for 1 year with the possibility of extension. The successful applicant may be required to undertake a criminal record check.

Having read the documentation, all enquiries should be directed to Professor Elizabeth Burcher, on telephone (02) 9385 2562 or email: e.burcher@unsw.edu.au

Website: <http://medicalsciences.med.unsw.edu.au/>

Applications close: 29 October 2009

A. Job Purpose

This is a position for a mature scientist to act as the lynchpin of research activities into mechanisms in the bladder, supported by external funds including NHMRC Project Grant. This project will investigate the release, expression and actions of neurochemicals including ATP in the urinary bladder.

B. Duties

In addition to initiating and performing experiments with a considerable degree of independence, the appointee is responsible for organizational aspects of the laboratory and ordering. The appointee will also need to co-ordinate and liaise with part-time staff working on other projects or acting as tissue collectors from hospitals. The successful candidate will have a major input into data analysis and preparation of scientific manuscripts for publication, and presentations / posters for scientific meetings.

- Isolated organ dissection and experimentation
- Molecular biology assays and immunoassays as appropriate
- Immunohistochemical techniques, including specimen preparation, immunoperoxidase, fluorescence, confocal photomicroscopy +/- image analysis
- Data analysis, poster and manuscript preparation
- Responsible for planning experiments and running of the laboratory
- Regularly liaise with the supervisor in respect of the status of experimental work
- Liaison with collaborative researchers at other institutions
- Coordinate and recruit tissue collectors; supervise other laboratory staff as appropriate.
- Collect human tissue from operating theatres on occasion
- Assist in the supervision of research students
- Ensure that the work for which they are responsible is carried out in ways, which safeguard the OHS of staff or students in their charge and visitors, including contractors whom they engage.

C. Environment

Position Context

The School of Medical Sciences occupies the Wallace Wurth (Medicine) building at UNSW, and is physically linked to both the Lowy Cancer Centre, (currently under construction), and the School of Biotechnology and Biomolecular Sciences. Some staff have been temporarily re-located to the John Goodsell building for the duration of 2009 in response to construction and renovation activities. Core research facilities exist within this Biomedical Science precinct to fully support virtually all contemporary forms of biomedical research. The School is integrally linked to the Centre for Vascular Research, the Brain Sciences UNSW Institute and the Centre for Infection and Inflammation Research at UNSW. It is adjacent to the Prince of Wales/Sydney Children's Hospital/Royal Women's Hospital complex at Randwick. Strong collaborative ties exist with the Children's Cancer Institute Australia, the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute, the Garvan Institute and the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute.

Statistics

The School of Medical Sciences consists of approximately 200 academic, general and research staff within the Departments of Anatomy, Physiology, Pharmacology, Pathology and Health & Exercise Science. The School General Funds annual budget is approximately \$ 14.1 million. The provides financial support for 210 research projects valued at \$6.6million within the School. Sources of funding include the National Health and Medical Research Council, the Australian Research Council and the National Heart Foundation. The School of Medical Sciences delivers courses and programs to more than 5000 undergraduate, Honours and postgraduate students. In addition, the School also offers distance education programs in several areas. In terms of undergraduate teaching, the Department is engaged in a variety of programs including Medicine, Medical Science, Health and Exercise Science, and Advanced Science.

With respect to this position, strong collaborative ties exist with researchers at St George Hospital, Kogarah, the Prince of Wales Hospital and at Bond and Wollongong Universities.

Reporting Relationships

Supervisor's title: Professor, NHMRC Principal Research Fellow

Other positions reporting to the supervisor: Research staff

Positions reporting to this position: Tissue collectors (TBA)

D. Principal Accountabilities

- Regular reporting (at least 1-2x per week) to supervisor about work in progress and periodic presentation of findings at research group meetings;
- Effective and productive experimentation conducted to a high scientific standard;
- Adherence to the principles of maintaining a safe and clean laboratory environment;
- Timely and accurate assistance in the production of reports and scientific manuscripts;
- Effective contribution to project development and research student supervision.

End results will include:

- Completion of sections of research project resulting in poster and oral presentation at conferences. Appointee will have main responsibility for this part of work.
- Completion of research manuscripts to be submitted to international scientific journals. These will be written in conjunction with Prof Burcher and senior colleagues.

E. Selection Criteria

Essential criteria:

- PhD in pharmacology, neurosciences, molecular biology or a related field;
- Minimum of five years research experience, with some peer-reviewed scientific publications;
- Proven experience in the techniques of immunohistochemistry, tissue culture, photomicroscopy, image analysis and specimen preparation;
- Demonstrated experience in animal experimentation;
- Experience in isolated organ pharmacology;
- Experience with developing new laboratory techniques;
- Excellent record keeping abilities and computer (statistical) skills;
- Excellent oral and written communication skills;
- Proven ability to work unsupervised;
- Ability to implement equal opportunity and diversity policies and programs.
- Willingness and capacity to implement required OHS policies and safe work practice.

INFORMATION ON THE BENEFITS OF WORKING AT UNSW

Benefits of Working at UNSW

The University of New South Wales (UNSW) is one of the leading teaching and research universities in Australia. Renown for the quality of its graduates and its commitment to new and creative approaches to education and research, the University motto - *Scientia Manu et Mente* ("Knowledge by Hand and Mind") - encapsulates the University's central philosophy of balancing the practical and the scholarly.

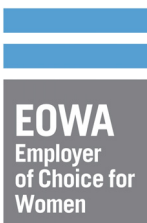
University Environment

UNSW offers a modern, dynamic and innovative teaching and learning environment with extensive social and recreational facilities. The UNSW campus is a compact yet beautiful, architecturally sophisticated setting, offering an enviable, cosmopolitan lifestyle for staff and students. Study and research facilities are comprehensive, with a widely acclaimed library network housing more than two million volumes, extensive electronic resources and access to volumes held in libraries at all major Australian research institutions. There is an award-winning bookshop on campus and a vast array of student services available.

UNSW has hundreds of sport and recreational clubs and societies for staff and students including several classical music groups who perform regularly. There is also a top class gymnasium with a fully equipped weights/cardio room, indoor swimming pool and a range of classes and courts to suit all fitness needs.

The UNSW campus boasts a vibrant cafe scene and is situated in the beautiful Eastern suburbs of Sydney just minutes from the famous Coogee and Bondi beaches. In addition, the local area is renowned for its large number of high quality, award winning, restaurants and cafes all of which are just minutes away. UNSW also boasts the famous National Institute of Dramatic Arts (NIDA) and the Randwick racecourse as neighbours.

Employer of choice for women



UNSW has been recognised for creating a work culture that supports and advances women with an Employer of Choice for Women citation. The award comes from the Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency (EOWA).

The University was acknowledged as one of only 115 organisations across Australia that actively recognise and address the needs of female workers, to assist them to reach their full potential in the workplace.

University Diversity

UNSW values the diverse social, economic, cultural and religious backgrounds of its employees and promotes this by providing an accessible campus environment, flexible work practices for those with family and other responsibilities or with disabilities, including training on diversity management and cross-cultural communication.

As an UNSW employee you will be able to enjoy a safe and non-discriminatory environment and have the same opportunities to benefit from employment as other employees. In relation to employment equity, staff can access work opportunities such as staff development and training, promotion and re-evaluation, higher duties and a suitable and safe working environment.

Leave Entitlements

Recreation Leave accrues at the rate of one and two-third days per month to a total entitlement of 20 days per year. Recreation leave cannot be taken in advance of its accrual.

Sick Leave is granted under the following arrangements: ten days in the first year of service, 15 days in the second and 30 days in any subsequent year.

Special Leave of up to three days per year may be granted in cases of emergency and unforeseen circumstances e.g. fire or flood damage to your home. Applications for Special Leave must be made to the supervisor and will be considered on its merits. There is no entitlement to Special Leave if the leave sought is during a period of other leave.

Observation of Holy Days and Essential Religious or Cultural Duties allows you to utilise recreation leave or long service leave or leave without pay for the purposes of attending holy days or essential religious or cultural duties associated with your particular religious faith or culture.

Carer's Leave allows you to use part of your sick leave to care for an immediate family member who is ill. Up to 10 days of sick leave entitlement can be used as carer's leave in any one of the first two years of employment. In the third and subsequent years up to 12 days of sick leave can be used for carer's leave.

Parental Leave is available to cover such situations as maternity leave, adoption leave and paternity leave.

Long Service Leave (LSL) may be applied for after ten years service. The minimum period of long service that can be taken is one week.

Bereavement Leave of up to three days per year may be granted in the case of death of an immediate family. In unfortunate circumstances where another immediate family member is deceased in the same year, approval to grant a further three days bereavement leave may be granted by the Director, Human Resources.

Leave Without Pay (LWOP) may be granted on application.

Salary

Salary is paid fortnightly (every second Thursday) calculated up to and including the Thursday. Payment is made to a bank, building society or credit union account nominated by the employee. The University's flexible payroll systems allow premiums, medical and hospital fund contributions, and credit union deposits or repayments.

Tax Effective Salary Packaging Options

The University recognises the value to employees of flexible remuneration planning. Salary sacrificing is one way to provide this flexibility. The principle aim of salary sacrificing is to legitimately restructure the way you receive your salary to suit your individual needs and potentially maximise your take home pay. This is achieved by allowing you to receive part of your salary in the form of benefits rather than receiving it all as salary.

Benefits include

- [Child Care](#)
- [Electronic Diary or Personal Digital Assistant \(PDA\)](#)
- [Laptop or Notebook Computers](#)
- [Lifestyle Clinic \(UNSW Medicine\)](#)
- [Motor Vehicles](#)
- [Parking](#)
- [Superannuation](#)
- [Unigym Membership](#)
- [Association of Tertiary Education Management](#)

Superannuation

The University offers a generous superannuation scheme with up to 17% employer contributions available to most staff on contracts of 2 years or more. For contracts of less than 2 years an employer contribution of 9% is paid. UNSW employees who are members of the Superannuation Scheme for Australian Universities (SSAU) and the UNSW Special Purposes Superannuation Scheme have the option of salary sacrificing.

Family Friendly Work Practices

UNSW has a comprehensive range of family-friendly work practices in place to assist staff maintain a work-life balance. These practices are designed to find the best possible match between the interests of the University and those of individual employees and can include flex-time, permanent part-time work, tele-commuting (working from home), job sharing, provision of child care, recognition of carer's responsibilities and generous, flexible leave, such as parental leave and carer's leave.

Onsite Car Parking

In addition, onsite parking is available for staff for a nominal fee.

University-Based Child Care Centres

There is a range of child care related assistance offered by the University. Child care waiting lists can be long, so it is advisable to inquire about places well in advance. The centres which provide places for children of staff are Tigger's Place, the House at Pooh Corner and Kanga's House.

<i>Tigger's Place</i>	Priority is given to staff of UNSW. Hours: 8.15am – 6:00pm Places for 40 children (15 babies and toddlers, 25 children aged 2.5 – 6 years)
<i>The House at Pooh Corner</i>	Priority given to UNSW students, then staff, then the community Hours: 8:00am – 6:00pm, 48 weeks per year Places for 72 children, ages 6 weeks to 5 years
<i>Kanga's House</i>	Priority given to staff of UNSW and local community. Hours: 8:00am – 6:00pm Places for 88 children aged 3 months to 5 years.

A ***child care salary packaging scheme*** is available to staff using the University's work based child care centres. This scheme allows staff to allocate a portion of their pre-tax salary for child care.

Other Services

E-mail and Internet Access is available for all staff. Employees are able to utilise the internet provider and email services of the University not only as part of their day-to-day work requirements but also for home use. The rates for home use are very competitive with commercial providers.

The University Library and its services are available to staff. Upon receiving your employee number and completing an application form you will have full borrowing rights.

The University Gymnasium is located on the lower campus and is open seven days a week offering a wide choice of recreational and fitness activities for both groups and individuals. Activities available include the use of the University swimming pool, aqua fitness and cardio/weights programs, the hire of volleyball, basketball, indoor soccer, badminton, table tennis, tennis and squash courts.

In addition, the **UNSW Sports Association** offers a wide range of courses and activities. A sample of the courses offered include archery, ballroom dancing, scuba diving, martial arts, sailing, skydiving and yoga. The Association produces a booklet prior to each session detailing the full list of available options.

The University Health Service provides a full range of GP, dental and physiotherapy services for staff and students and their families. The medical practitioners bulk bill. The Service is located on the ground floor of eastern wing of the Quadrangle Building.

An **Optometry Clinic** offers staff and students general eye examinations, specialist low vision services, colour vision assessment, vision training, sports vision assessments and contact lens fitting. Eye examinations are covered by Medicare. Spectacles and contact lenses are supplied at a reduced cost.

A free and confidential **Staff Counselling Service** is available to University staff through the UNSW Employee Assistance Program (EAP) which is provided by an independent firm engaged by the University.

Chaplains from a variety of religious denominations are available.

The National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA) is located on the Kensington Campus. Several student productions (some free) are held during the year in the NIDA theatre or the Parade Theatre, which are both on Anzac Parade. The School of Theatre, Film and Dance holds public performances in the Io Myers Studio. Various student groups also stage productions and reviews during the year.

The Australia Ensemble is resident at the University. Each year it performs six evening concerts in the Sir John Clancy Auditorium and holds free daytime rehearsals before each concert which staff and students may attend. Other musical highlights include performances by The Collegium Musicum Choir, the UNSW Orchestra, Pipers Wind Band and UNSW Opera.

Banks and Credit Unions are located around the University. The Commonwealth Bank, the ANZ Bank and Unicom have separate branches and a number of ATMs are located on campus. A range of other banks and credit unions are located within short walking distance at Randwick.

Transport

All employees have access to the use of several undercover parking stations located on the University. For a small fortnightly salary deduction, employees can enjoy this 24 hour service on a daily or long term basis.

The University is well serviced by public transport buses both to and from the University. Special express bus services are also available for staff and students. The State Transit Authority have a help line open from 6am to 10pm, the number is 131 500. State Transit also has a web site located at www.sydneytransport.net.au.