

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

POSITION NUMBER	954908
COLLEGE / DEPARTMENT	Institute for Health and Sport
LOCATION/CAMPUS	The position is currently located at the Footscray Park Campus of the University.
CLASSIFICATION	Academic Level B

OVERALL PURPOSE

The overall purpose of the Postdoctoral Research Fellow position is to provide academic research excellence in areas of strength and focus in the Institute for Health and Sport.

The incumbent will be responsible for conducting high-quality research, generating research outputs and seeking external research funding. The position will carry out independent research and team research. In addition, the Postdoctoral Research Fellow will supervise postgraduate research students and will be involved with research training and teaching.

The position will be based at Victoria University's iHeS facility at Footscray Park but may also require travel to other campuses. Please see details below for major duties of this position.

ORGANISATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Victoria University (VU) is a dual-sector (higher education and TAFE) tertiary institution based in Melbourne, Australia. VU has eight colleges, each covering a broad discipline of study, six research institutes and seven research centres. The University has nine campuses in Melbourne's CBD and western region, and a tenth campus in Sydney. It also offers courses at partner institutions throughout Asia. More than 42,861 students, including around 13,500 international students, study VU courses worldwide. This year, VU celebrates its 25th anniversary as a university, which will also mark its 100 years as an educational institution.

VU's Strategic Plan, *The University of Opportunity and Success 2016 – 2020*, presents a bold and distinctive vision that will ensure the University maintains its market position within an increasingly competitive tertiary environment. Importantly, VU's distinctiveness is characterised by the vision and mission in the plan, as follows:

VISION

Victoria University will be open and excellent, creating exceptional value for any student from any background, by guiding them to achieve their career aspirations, and uplifting communities in our heartland and beyond.

MISSION

Through its distinctive approach to curriculum, the student experience, research and knowledge exchange, emphasising engagement with industry and the community, VU will be renowned for:

◆ Education

Providing high quality, engaging, career-based tertiary education at all levels of vocational and higher education with flexible entry and exit points, appropriate pathways, engaging and rigorous curriculum

and contemporary delivery, while maintaining rigorous standards and ensuring all students are supported to meet those standards.

◆ Research and Engagement

- ◆ Undertaking high quality and innovative applied and translational research which results in healthier, smarter and sustainable communities in the western region and beyond.
- ◆ Connecting deeply with industry and the community and in turn, enhancing the quality of teaching and learning.

INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND SPORT

The [Institute for Health and Sport \(iHeS\)](#) is one of two Research Institutes at VU. We take a transformative, future-focussed, “whole-of-University” approach, undertaking research into issues of global significance in Health and Sport.

IHES research is part of the VUs whole-of-university effort to prioritise solutions that are locally anchored or ‘place-based’ to ensure sustainability. IHES research addresses the United Nations Social Development Goals #3 Good Health and Wellbeing; #5 Gender Equality; #10 Reduced Inequalities; #11 Sustainable Cities and Communities; and #17 Partnerships. Our research contributes to the Key Thematic Areas in VU Research and Impact of Health, Sport & Wellness; First Nations Knowledge; New Generation Skills and Workforce Impact; Green Research Translation; and New Frontiers in policy, advocacy and justice

The Institute has ~ 315 highly active researchers, comprising 143 staff and 172 (~141 EFTSL) HDR students. We have some of the best equipped sport, biomechanics, exercise science and biochemistry labs in the world.

Research in the Institute for Health and Sport is undertaken through three multi-disciplinary research themes:

- **Sport that Inspires**
- **Movement for Health**
- **Discovering Healthy Futures**

The operations of the **Institute for Health and Sport** and this position are currently located at the **Footscray Park Campus** of the University.

MAJOR CHALLENGES / FREEDOM TO ACT

This position reports to and receives broad direction from the **Dr Alessandra Ferri, IHES** and operates within the University policies, procedures and guidelines.

A key challenge of this position will be to carry out independent and team-based research that will involve the development of relations between other relevant researchers, community organisations and industry

MAJOR CHALLENGES / FREEDOM TO ACT

partners and other government organisations. To further develop research skills, where applicable the incumbent will be required to be involved in research training. Accountability is measured annually in terms of research outputs according to the agreed VU Develop Plan.

MAJOR DUTIES PERFORMED

In performing the following duties, the incumbent is required to comply with quality assurance policies and procedures, and other relevant legislative requirements applicable to the University. The major duties to be performed are:

1. Undertake quality academic research, typically in collaboration with research students and/or research staff.
2. Publish papers, articles and reports in high-impact academic journals, including journals, and conference proceedings.
3. Assist with supervision of research undergraduate/interns, honours, Masters, and PhD students working on individual or group projects.
4. Prepare and submit external grant applications, and develop external research collaborations and partnerships.
5. Attend conferences, workshops and other professional development activities if deemed relevant by the supervisor.
6. Contribute to the development of the University's research culture, through the promotion, conduct and facilitation of research and publications.
7. Liaise with college, and institute staff and other research groups internally and externally.
8. Ensure that the work for which they are responsible aligns with the OHS of staff, students, visitors and contractors.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- A PhD or equivalent research higher degree in an area of exercise physiology, medicine, physiotherapy, or cognate discipline.
- Strong interest in research related to “exercise is medicine” and experience working with clinical populations.
- AEP (Accredited Exercise Physiologist) status with Exercise and Sport Science Australia (ESSA)
- Highly developed organisational skills and demonstrated project management skills
- Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- Demonstrated outstanding research publication record.
- Capacity to work effectively in an interdisciplinary environment and contribute to the work of the research team
- Willingness to commit to Victoria University's values which are:
 - Values – Access, Excellence, Respect
 - Behaviours – Engagement, Collegiality, Courage