

Position Description – Research Fellow in Neuroscience

Updated 17 January 2025

POSITION DETAILS

College	College of Medicine and Public Health
Organisational Unit	Human Physiology, Medical Bioscience
Supervisor	Professor
Classification	Research (Academic) Level B
Employment Type	Fixed-term, full-time (Available for 2 years)

POSITION SUMMARY

The Research Fellow will undertake research in the discipline of Human Physiology under the broad direction of the Head of Laboratory, Prof Damien Keating. In working with him and the research team, the position will contribute to project design and implementation, the analysis of data and the preparation of manuscripts for publication.

The Research Fellow will actively report on new and current research related to the research program, through generation of high quality publications and conference presentations. In addition the position will contribute to the preparation of applications for externally funded research funding. The research program will specifically focus on a novel gut-brain circuit that controls body temperature.

The Research Fellow may assist in leading students involved in the research project, according to the University's policies, practices and standards.

UNIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS AND VALUES

All staff at Flinders are responsible for understanding their obligations and responsibilities as set out in the University's code of conduct and are expected to:

- demonstrate commitment to the University's values of Integrity, Courage, Innovation, Excellence and the underlying ethos of being Student Centred;
- contribute to the efficient and effective functioning of the team or work unit in order to meet the University's objectives. This includes demonstrating appropriate and professional workplace behaviours, providing assistance to team members if required and undertaking other key responsibilities or activities as directed by one's supervisor;
- promote and support an inclusive workplace culture which values diversity and embraces the principles of equal opportunity;
- perform their responsibilities in a manner which reflects and responds to continuous improvement; and
- familiarise themselves and comply with the University's Work Health and Safety, Injury Management and Equal Opportunity policies.

A National Police Certificate which is satisfactory to the University will be required by Flinders University before the successful applicant can commence in this position.

Staff working in a health care setting are strongly recommended to be fully vaccinated against COVID in line with the SA Health policy

KEY POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

The Research Fellow in Neuroscience is accountable for:

- Actively contributing to the research project by collaborating with the Research Team to successfully deliver project milestones and Key Performance Indicators.
- Independently contributing to the planning and execution of research by offering new and innovative ideas, reviewing relevant literature and other sources of information, actively participating in the production of data, contributing to the writing and editing of grant applications and attending seminars, meetings and conferences.
- Playing a lead role in coordinating, planning and executing the project tasks required to collaborate with industry partners.
- Independently contributing to ethical, high quality and innovative research and evaluation through activities such as scholarship, publishing in recognised high quality journals and assisting the preparation and submission of bids for external research funding.
- Supervision of honours and post graduate research projects where relevant.
- Establishing and maintaining collaborations within the University, and at State, national and international levels in order to improve research outputs, patents and publications.
- Some out of hours work (including weekends) as well as rural SA, interstate and overseas travel, may be required.
- Any other responsibilities in line with the level of the position as assigned by the Supervisor and/or the University.

KEY POSITION CAPABILITIES

- Completion of a PhD in physiology or neuroscience.
- Demonstrated research experience in terms of publications in high quality publications, attraction of external competitive grants and presentations at a national and/or international level in a field relevant to this project.
- Demonstrated experience in, or understanding of, quantitative research methodologies relevant to the project including some or all of the following: secretion experiments, small animal surgery, *in vivo* animal work, analysis and data presentation of electrophysiological recordings, mouse behavioural analysis, molecular genetics including use or maintenance of transgenic mouse colonies, optogenetics and brain histology.
- Demonstrated experience delivering project targets on time.
- Demonstrated ability to plan and execute data collection and analysis.
- Demonstrated well-developed interpersonal skills and experience in collaborating and engaging with diverse stakeholders and industry partners.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively both autonomously and in a team environment, including the ability to provide routine direction to junior staff/students.
- Demonstrated ability to critically review the literature in relevant fields.
- Demonstrated experience to undertake collaborative research and establish and maintain effective relationships with staff and industry.
- Demonstrated excellent oral and written communication skills in an academic environment.