

AUSTRALIAN REGENERATIVE MEDICINE INSTITUTE**MONASH UNIVERSITY****POSITION DESCRIPTION**

POSITION TITLE: **Group Leader**

CLASSIFICATION: **Level C/D**

FRACTION: **100%**

INTRODUCTION

Monash University is a large, complex and diverse university with an international focus and a long-standing commitment to quality teaching, learning and innovative research. It has an excellent reputation for high quality research output, and undergraduate and graduate education. Monash has six campuses in Victoria, a campus in Malaysia, a campus in South Africa, a centre in Prato, Italy, and numerous international partnerships and co-operative ventures.

Monash has approximately 55,000 equivalent full-time students spread across its Australian and off-shore campuses, and approximately 5,300 full time equivalent staff. Approximately 2,500 of these staff members are academic staff.

The Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences is the university's largest research faculty with many world-class researchers working across a range of disciplines, from laboratory-based medical science to applied clinical, social and public health research.

The Faculty is also home to a number of leading medical and biomedical research institutes whose researchers have contributed to advances in areas including *in vitro* fertilisation, human stem cells, structural biology, cardiovascular physiology, drug discovery, functional genomics, infectious diseases, inflammation, psychology, neurosciences and mental health.

The Faculty is ranked nineteenth in the world in biomedical research and aims to be Australia's leading medical research faculty within five years. All schools and departments are expected to be in the top three nationally in their discipline.

Courses offered by the faculty include undergraduate and graduate entry medicine, nursing, radiography and medical imaging, nutrition and dietetics, paramedic studies, biomedical sciences, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, behavioural neurosciences and social work. The faculty also offers a range of research and coursework postgraduate programs.

The faculty prides itself in delivering outstanding education in all its courses, in opening our students to the possibilities offered by new knowledge through a vital research teaching nexus, and in providing a nurturing and caring environment.

Faculty snapshot

Students (EFTSL – 6974)

- Undergraduate – 5475 (78.5%)
- Postgraduate coursework – 834 (12.0%)
- Higher degree by research – 665 (9.5%)

Staff (FTE) – 1587

- Academic – 1104
- General – 483

The faculty is organised into nine schools and several institutes comprising multiple departments, centres and further institutes:

- School of Biomedical Sciences
- School of Nursing and Midwifery
- School of Psychology, Psychiatry and Psychological Medicine
- Central Clinical School
- School of Primary Health Care
- School of Rural Health
- Southern Clinical School
- School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine
- Eastern Health Clinical School
- Monash Institute of Medical Research
- Australian Regenerative Medicine Institute

In addition, the three medical schools – Central Medical School, School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Monash University Malaysia and Gippsland Graduate Entry Medical School – work together as the Monash University School of Medicine.

Australian Regenerative Medicine Institute (ARMI)

The **Australian Regenerative Medicine Institute (ARMI)** is a state-of-the-art regenerative medicine research facility based at Monash's Clayton campus. The Institute is a joint venture between Monash University and the Government of Victoria. ARMI will employ a multi-centre, cross-disciplinary and highly focused approach to develop innovative clinical protocols as well as pursue rapid commercial transfer of its technologies related to regenerative medicine.

At the core of ARMI strategy is the Future Scientific Leaders Program based on the model at the world-renowned European Molecular Biology Laboratories (EMBL) established throughout Europe. The program allows young scientists the freedom to pursue discovery-based research and position them to become the scientific leaders of tomorrow.

In the first phase of operation, ARMI will comprise research laboratories with a suite of core facilities (tissue culture, microscopy, FACS, etc) supporting the research program. The Institute is pursuing a rapid growth strategy and will increase to over 100 life science researchers within two years. This incumbent will be instrumental in helping to achieve that growth.

As part of its multidisciplinary approach, ARMI will work closely with the School of Biomedical Sciences, Monash Immunology Stem Cell Laboratories (MISCL), the Australian Stem Cell Centre (ASCC), Monash Institute of Medical Research (MIMR), Monash Animal Services.

Regenerative Biology Unit:

The Muscle Development Laboratory, led by Professor Peter Currie, is one of the research laboratories located within the Regenerative Biology Unit of ARMI.

The Laboratory uses zebra fish to examine the cellular and molecular basis of embryonic skeletal muscle formation, the mechanisms that generate muscle growth and the nature of the muscle regeneration. One of the main reasons for studying zebra fish is that they are transparent in early development, allowing visualisation of every cell, and the tracking of movement of individual cells throughout the embryo using sophisticated labels and dyes. Many mutations have also been described that disrupt formation of different aspects of embryonic development and this allows the assignment of function to genes, a main task of the "post genomic era". The Muscle Development Laboratory is particularly interested in genes that control formation of skeletal muscle, and how signalling mechanisms used in the embryo generate different types of muscle cells. The laboratory has discovered mutations that mirror the onset of human muscular dystrophy and have developed zebra fish models of common muscular dystrophies. It is hoped this analysis will lead to novel understandings of the cell biological and developmental mechanisms that underlie the pathogenesis of this important group of human diseases.

THE APPOINTMENT

A research-only academic at this level is expected to make independent or original contributions to the research effort within her/his field of expertise and to the organisational unit or inter-disciplinary area of which he/she is a part. A Group Leader is expected to make a significant contribution to all the activities of ARMI and play a major role in research including the exercise of leadership in research.

The position requires a highly motivated, energetic and conscientious person, with postgraduate level qualifications and an excellent track record in research. High level communication and writing skills are considered essential.

The appointee will be responsible to Professor Peter Currie, Deputy Director, Australian Regenerative Medicine Institute and will be based at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia.

DUTIES

The Group Leader will:

- Provide strong leadership to a research team composed of less senior research staff and students
- Supervise the research work of other, more junior research staff and research-support staff involved in the staff member's research
- Supervise major honours or postgraduate research projects within the field of the staff member's area of research
- Conduct research and produce conference and seminar papers and publications from that research
- Be involved, where appropriate, in the promotion of research links with outside bodies;
- Prepare research proposal submissions to external funding bodies
- Be responsible for overseeing financial management of grants received for her/his research projects
- Be involved in professional activities including, subject to availability of funds, attendance at conferences and seminars in the field of expertise
- Occasionally contribute to the teaching program within the field of the staff member's research
- Execute high level, research-related administrative functions; and
- Attend meetings associated with research or the work of the organisational unit to which the research is connected and/or at departmental, school and/or faculty meetings and a major role in planning and committee work.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Group Leader / Senior Research Fellow – Level C

Essential

- PhD qualification in biological sciences or related science discipline
- Previous research in the area of regenerative biology
- Evidence of a strong record of publications, conference papers, reports and/or professional and/or technical contributions in the relevant discipline area
- Excellent statistical analysis and manuscript preparation skills
- Strong evidence of refereed publications and grant funding
- High level organisational skills, with demonstrated capacity to establish and achieve goals
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- A demonstrated capacity to work in a collegiate manner with other staff in the workplace.

Group Leader / Senior Research Fellow – Level D

Essential

- PhD qualification in biological sciences or related science discipline
- Outstanding contribution to research in the area of regenerative biology
- Evidence of a highly successful record of publications, conference papers, reports and/or professional and/or technical contributions in the relevant discipline area
- Excellent statistical analysis and manuscript preparation skills
- Strong evidence of refereed publications and grant funding
- Strong leadership skills
- High level organisational skills, with demonstrated capacity to establish and achieve goals
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- A demonstrated capacity to work in a collegiate manner with other staff in the workplace.

THE APPOINTMENT PACKAGE

It is expected that this position will be offered at Level C (\$87,281-\$100,640) or level D (\$105,096 - \$115,779) plus 17% superannuation.

Appointments will be made at a level appropriate to the successful applicants' qualifications and experience.

The position is for a term of 5 years.