



Research Officer

Position title: Research Officer	Classification: Academic Level A
Division/Department: Ubiquitin Signalling	Work location: Parkville
Position reference:	Employment type: Fixed Term, Full Time
Remuneration range: \$90,054 - \$96,661 p/a	Further information: Prof David Komander dk@wehi.edu.au
Position reports to: Professor David Komander	Closing date:

Position overview

The role of Research Officer is to contribute to the research effort and further develop their research expertise through the pursuit of defined projects within the research program to which they are appointed. Research Officers are expected to be self-motivated and to operate with minimal supervision under the general direction of the Laboratory Head.

This position is based in the Komander Laboratory within the Ubiquitin Signalling Division. The Research Officer will be responsible for the design and execution of experiments for optimization of new and existing protocols to study ubiquitin modifications using mass spectrometric approaches. The Research Officer will be expected to collaborate closely with the proteomics group, other members of the Ubiquitin Signalling Division and beyond.

Organisational environment

The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research

The institute, established in 1915, currently houses 15 research divisions, containing around 81 laboratories and around 1,000 staff and students, with an annual budget of approximately \$100 million (AUD).

The institute's research focuses on cancer (breast, cancer, leukaemia, lymphoma, multiple myeloma, lung cancer, colon cancer, and ovarian cancer), infectious disease (malaria, tuberculosis, HIV, and hepatitis) and chronic inflammatory and immune diseases (coeliac disease, type 1 diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis and transplantation) and continues a strong tradition of collaboration and interdisciplinary programs. The institute has a strong national and international reputation for performing highly influential research and for translation that leads to long term improvements in disease, diagnosis and treatment.

The institute's main laboratories are located within the Parkville precinct, a vibrant hub for life science research, education and healthcare provision. In addition, the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute Biotechnology Centre is located 30 minutes from Parkville at La Trobe University's R&D Park in Bundoora. The Biotechnology Centre features facilities for high-throughput chemical screening, medicinal chemistry, antibody production and malaria containment. The centre also functions as an incubator for the institute's biotechnology companies.

Organisational objectives

Discovery and translation

To make discoveries that shape contemporary scientific thinking, increase understanding and improve prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer, immune disorders and infectious diseases.

Education and training

To educate and train world class scientists and to attract, develop and retain the best and brightest workforce.

Organisational culture

To provide a vibrant and inspiring organisational culture that encourages, promotes and rewards excellence, collaboration, innovation, creativity and respect.

Engagement

To engage with our stakeholders to improve outcomes, building support and secure resources for medical research.

Sustainability

To build infrastructure, professional services and funding that sustains our research and maximises the time our scientists can spend making discoveries.

Organisational values

- Pursuit of excellence
- Integrity and mutual respect
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Creativity
- Contribution to society
- Accountability

Key responsibilities

Activities	Performance Indicators
Innovation and Planning	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work within defined projects as directed by the Laboratory Head • Undertake experimental design • Recommend new approaches and techniques for assigned projects • Adapt to experimental progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New approaches to design of experiment are introduced to projects and the laboratory • Appropriate new techniques are introduced • Initiative taken in identifying and recommending effective modifications to planned work • Effective adaptability changing situations shown
Knowledge and Skill Acquisition	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake literature search on assigned projects • Identify skill needs and how to acquire them • Attend meetings associated with the research work of the Laboratory, Division, and Institute 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-depth knowledge and understanding of allocated projects gained • All skills relevant to allocated projects are kept up-to-date or acquired and developed • Demonstrated understanding of the broader field of research • Weekly attendance at the Institute seminar
Research Performance	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take initiative and independently solve problems in progressing assigned projects • Make substantial intellectual contributions in generating, analysing and interpreting research data • Contribute to the production of research papers for publication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem solving skills applied independently • Observations recorded and documented diligently and objectively • Experimental approach effectively defended • Authorship on papers produced by the laboratory
Research Methods and Techniques	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct advanced research procedures • Operate advanced laboratory and technical equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wide range of methods and techniques successfully used • Protocols modified according to conditions and experimental requirements
Research Communication	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give research reports at relevant internal meetings • Contribute to the production of conference and seminar materials • Draft own research findings for publication of papers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sound writing skills demonstrated • Effective oral presentations given • Presentation of at least one Division seminar annually
Collaboration	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to scientific discussion within the laboratory • Support members of the laboratory with their research goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expertise contributed to progress other projects in the laboratory
Supervision	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to research training and provide advice to research students within own field of research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information provided clearly • Guidance of students and less experienced staff
Funding	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify opportunities to apply for salary support funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality applications made for fellowship funding • Renewal or initial award
Contribution to Broader Goals of the Institute	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively participate in professional activities • Contribute to journal peer review and external assessments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributions to the advancement of the research field • Contributions to institute mission and key objective of engagement

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contribute to community engagement with research | |
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Key selection criteria

Personal qualities

- Initiative to resolve technical, organisational and scientific issues.
- Ability to work in and promote a collaborative research environment.
- Innovation, as demonstrated by a track record of achievements and strong publication record.

Knowledge and skills

- Extensive experience (PhD) on various mass spectrometers, such as linear ion-trap, triple-quadrupole or LTQ/Orbitrap, Q-TOF platforms.
- Experience and knowledge in liquid chromatography (reverse phase, ion exchange, size-exclusion), maintenance and troubleshooting of mass spectrometers.
- Experience- in quantitative mass spectrometry (both label and label free) and detection of post-translational modifications (especially ubiquitination) are highly desirable.
- Ability to generate reproducible, high-quality mass spectrometric data for qualitative and quantitative purposes.
- Candidate must also have basic knowledge in statistics and usage of various MS-analysis software packages and the ability to troubleshoot experimental protocols, interpret data and design new experiments.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills (fluent spoken and written English required).
- Exceptional record keeping skills and ability to present results clearly.

Occupational Health and Safety

- Comply with institute Health and Safety Policies and Procedures.
- Take reasonable care of own safety and the safety of others around.
- Use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and safety devices appropriately.
- Report all hazards, incidents and injuries.
- Attend training programs as documented in individual training needs matrices.

How and where to apply

Applicants are encouraged to submit a cover letter, current resume and three referees to jobapplications@wehi.edu.au quoting the position number **WEHI/DKDA**

Please address each of the key selection criteria separately in a written document.

Diversity

The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

The institute encourages and welcomes interest from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders for roles within the institute.

Privacy notification

The collection and handling of declarations and personal information relevant to your employment will be consistent with the requirements of the *Privacy Act 1988*.