

POSITION DESCRIPTION



Charter Hall Senior Research Fellow



POSITION DETAILS

Position Title	Charter Hall Senior Research Fellow
Classification	Academic level C
Position Number	NEW
School/Office	MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour and Development and School of Medicine
Division	Provost

POSITION PURPOSE

The Charter Hall Senior Research Fellow in the Neuroscience of Ageing and Dementia, is an upcoming research leader who will lead and grow a new research group in a priority area in the Neuroscience of Ageing and Dementia. The Senior Fellow will forge local and international collaborations to deepen Western Sydney University's research capacity and standing in the cognitive neuroscience of ageing, using cutting-edge methods and fostering new collaborative partnerships with external organisations to tackle critical health and medical issues. The position will leverage a personally established track record of independent and original research, continuing this trajectory to ultimately have a significant impact in the field of ageing and dementia. The Charter Hall Senior Research Fellow will also provide leadership through securing external research income, mentoring of early career researchers, successfully attracting and supervising postgraduate research students to completion and contributing to curriculum development. For suitably qualified candidates, there is the opportunity for a fractional clinical appointment with the Department of Neurology at Westmead Hospital in the Western Sydney Local Health District.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

- **Initiate and lead research projects** in neuroscience of ageing and dementia.
- **Chair meetings or working groups** with strong facilitation and inclusive practices.
- **Source and increase external research funding** by identifying, initiating and preparing funding applications for Australian research funding (e.g., Cat. 1 and/or Cat. 2-4).
- **Develop strategic partnerships within the Westmead Health Precinct** that align with WSU goals and create long-term academic or social impact.
- **Mentor Early / Mid-career researchers** including supervision of Higher Degree Research Candidates, fostering a culture of support, reflection and collaboration.

- **Disseminate research outcomes** including regularly publishing high quality articles in recognised journals, contributing to the production of impactful outputs and presentations at national and international events.
- **Participate in specialist teaching activities and contribute to curriculum development** within associated Faculties and Schools.
- **Supervise staff as required.** This may include research assistants, postdoctoral researchers, and research fellows involved in research projects.
- **Provide leadership through governance roles**, including serving on Institute and University committees.
- **Drive strategic decision-making to advance the Institute's and School's goals**, particularly in strengthening research training, enhancing research dissemination and impact, and growing research income

QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS

1. **PhD qualification** in Cognitive Neuroscience, Neuroscience, Psychology or a related field.
2. **Demonstrated experience** in writing research grant proposals, securing competitive national research and industry-based research funding and developing strategic research networks across government, industry and community sectors.
3. **Demonstrated experience** in leading and progressing research initiatives from inception through to completion and publication, with a significant track record in achieving high-quality publications in high impact journals.
4. **Demonstrated excellence in research dissemination**, including engagement with traditional and digital media and public commentary.
5. **Demonstrated working knowledge of experimental methods and associated analyses**, such as: EEG, MEG, fNIRS, fMRI, or brain stimulation.
6. **Strong leadership skills**, in managing people and relationships, including mentoring and developing others.
7. **Demonstrated research supervision and teaching skills** including demonstrated record of successful supervision of undergraduate and higher degree research students.
8. **Excellent written and verbal communication skills**, including interpersonal skills and the ability to work effectively in a team. Ability to be highly organised, meet priorities and timelines.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS

- **This position reports to:** Director, MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour and Development
- **This position has no supervisory responsibilities**
- **Key internal relationships:**
 - School Deans, Provost, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research), other Senior Executive Staff
 - Institute Manager, Academics and Professional Staff within the Institute / University
- **Key external relationships:**
 - International Researchers and Universities
 - Industry Partners, specifically within Westmead Health Precinct

CHALLENGES

- Navigating competing priorities across multiple stakeholder groups while maintaining service quality.
- Driving and sustaining research innovation and excellence amid intensifying competition for

- funding.
- Ensuring compliance with complex and changing regulatory frameworks.

UNIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS

The University expects that all employees are aware of, and comply with legislation and Western's policies and procedures relevant to the position, including but not limited to:

- Code of Conduct
- Work Health and Safety and Wellbeing Management System
- Enterprise Agreement or Award
- Anti-discrimination principles, Equal Employment Opportunity and staff and student equity.

Approved by: Prof Deborah Sweeney

Date: 19 December 2025