



Faculty Administration Unit
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M E M O R A N D U M

TO : Professor Kwong Lee Dow, Vice Chancellor
FROM : Dr Richard Frampton, General Manager
DATE : 30th November 2004
SUBJECT : *Proposal to establish the position of Professor of Paediatric Neurology Research (AH/RCH)*

The Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, proposes to establish the position of Professor of Paediatric Neurology Research at Austin Health/Northern Hospital and Royal Children's Hospital. The relevant position description is attached.

I would be grateful if this could be considered at the next meeting of Planning and Budgets Committee.

Richard Frampton
General Manager

cc Ms Jan Mariani

**The University of Melbourne, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health
Sciences**

Chair of Paediatric Neurology Research

**Departments of Medicine (Austin Health/Northern Health) and Paediatrics
(RCH)**

Special information

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 A new position has been created on the Austin Health campus for an academic paediatrician to develop paediatric neurology research within the University Departments of Medicine at Austin Health/Northern Health (AH/NH) and Paediatrics at the Royal Children's Hospital. This is a unique opportunity to take a leadership role in the growth of paediatric neurology research within the faculty.
- 1.2 The Department of Medicine (AH/NH) has staff located at the Austin Hospital, the Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital and the Northern Hospital. The Department was established in 1965, initially at the Austin Hospital and became the Department of Medicine of the Austin Hospital and Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital following the merger of those two Institutions. The Department has recently expanded to include a Chair of Medicine at the Northern Hospital. The Department of Paediatrics, established in 1952 is based primarily at the Royal Children's Hospital;
- 1.3 This new Chair has as its objectives to:
 - Provide leadership in teaching, training and research in the University Departments of Medicine (AH/NH) and Paediatrics (RCH).
 - Increase the quality and amount of paediatric neurology research associated with the University of Melbourne Departments of Medicine (AH/NH) and Paediatrics (RCH).
 - Enhance collaborative research links between paediatric research at the AH/NH campuses and the Department of Paediatrics at the Royal Children's Hospital
 - Provide academic leadership in paediatric medicine at Austin Health.
- 1.4 The Chair has been established by the generous gift from an anonymous donor, for an initial 5 year period to fund a position at the Department of Medicine, AH/NH, with an additional 0.2 contribution from the Department of Paediatrics.

2. FIELD OF EXPERTISE

- 2.1 The successful applicant will be expected to build on the academic strengths in the University Departments of Medicine (AH/NH) and Paediatrics (RCH) and utilize the special clinical and other resources at Austin Health and the Royal

Children's Hospital. An individual with special expertise in clinical paediatric neurology, particularly epilepsy research, is sought.

2.2 The successful applicant will have a distinguished track record of attracting significant research funding coupled with an excellent publication record in high quality, peer reviewed Journals.

2.3 It is expected the individual would carry out research of international standing.

3. ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

3.1 THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE, DENTISTRY AND HEALTH SCIENCES

The University of Melbourne Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences comprises the School of Medicine, the School of Dental Science, the School of Physiotherapy, the School of Behavioural Science, the School of Nursing, the School of Population Health, the School of Rural Health and the Dean's Office which also incorporates the Faculty's Education Unit, IT Unit and International Unit.

3.1.1 The Department of Medicine (AH/NH)

The position is based in the Department of Medicine (AH/NH), and the incumbent will be responsible to the Head of the Department of Medicine (AH/NH) and thence to the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, University of Melbourne. The incumbent reports jointly to the Head of the Department of Medicine (AH/NH) and to the Head of the Department of Paediatrics in relation to academic performance.

Whilst this position is primarily based in the Department of Medicine (AH/NH) and geographically based at Austin Health, the appointee will be a full academic member of the Department of Paediatrics and will be expected to have a close relationship to the Department of Paediatrics, based at Royal Children's Hospital.

Austin Health and Northern Health are teaching hospitals of the University of Melbourne. Currently Austin Health has three campuses, the Austin, Repatriation General Hospital and the Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Hospital. In addition to general medicine, medical specialist services include departments in cardiology, gastroenterology, neurology, clinical pharmacology, oncology, haematology, nephrology, nuclear medicine, geriatrics, rehabilitation, thoracic medicine, dermatology and rheumatology. A major development of the Medical Centre is currently under construction at the Austin campus and there is State Government commitment to redevelopment of the Repatriation Campus.

The University Department of Medicine (AH/NH) provides general medical services within the Medical Centres' division of Medicine. Members of the Department are attached to specialist units as appropriate.

3.1.2 The Department of Paediatrics (RCH)

The Royal Children's Hospital is a statewide teaching, training and research paediatric hospital. The hospital provides tertiary, secondary and primary child and adolescent health services, including mental health services. It is a tertiary and quaternary

paediatric referral centre providing specialist services and multidisciplinary clinics for sick infants, children and adolescents from Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and southern New South Wales. The Royal Children's Hospital also provides specialised paediatric care for patients from overseas, particularly from south-east Asia, Nauru and Fiji.

The Royal Children's Hospital plays a major role in child public health, health promotion and advocacy for children and young people's health. It provides the full spectrum of medical and surgical paediatric services, as well as a number of specialist tertiary paediatric services and health promotion and prevention programs for infants, children and adolescents. These services are provided on both an inpatient and ambulatory basis.

Teaching, training and research are fundamental elements of the Royal Children's Hospital. The Royal Children's Hospital is part of a child health precinct, and in partnership with the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute, the University of Melbourne, LaTrobe University, Deakin University, Monash University and RMIT University, ensures clinical services are integrally linked with teaching, training and research.

The Department of Paediatrics at The University of Melbourne is a large academic department based at the Royal Children's Hospital.

4. TEACHING

4.1 The organization of undergraduate clinical teaching is the responsibility of the Clinical Dean of the AH in conjunction with a Joint Academic Board of which the Professor of Paediatric Neurology Research would be an ex-officio member. The Professor of Paediatric Neurology Research is expected to provide significant input into the teaching of medicine at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

4.2 The Department of Paediatrics enrolls students in Bachelor of Science (Hons), Bachelor of Medical Science as well as Master of Health Science, MD and PhD programs. Course work programs leading to graduate diplomas in adolescent health and welfare, community child health and genetic counselling are offered; a Master of Medicine program in paediatrics and, in conjunction with the Faculty of Education, a Master of Youth Health and Education Management are also offered.

The Department of Paediatrics is responsible for teaching child and adolescent health, paediatric surgery and other specialities in relationship to children, adolescents and their families, including mental health to medical students of the university. All 5th year medical students are attached to the department for 11 weeks and spend 9 of these weeks at the Royal Children's Hospital. In addition, members of the department contribute to the teaching program in years 1, 2, 3 and 6 of the medical course.

The Professor of Paediatric Neurology Research would be expected to contribute to teaching in the Department of Paediatrics at undergraduate and postgraduate levels where appropriate.

4.3 All Professors of the University are members of the Academic Board.

5. RESEARCH

5.1 The Department of Medicine (AH/NH) has a strong research base with significant funding from the NH&MRC, other peer reviewed granting bodies and industry. The focus of research undertaken in the Department is in three major areas – Metabolic Medicine, Neuroscience and Therapeutics with a wide range of research interests within these areas, it is recognised internationally for its work in cardiovascular physiology and disease, endocrinology, clinical pharmacology and neurology.

5.2 The Department of Paediatrics also has considerable research funds with members of its department undertaking a wide spectrum of research endeavours. Murdoch Childrens Research Institute is also based at the RCH campus and MCRI, hospital and university staff based at the Royal Children's Hospital campus and actively collaborate in the conduct of research. These relationships are crucial in providing opportunities for 'translational research' to drive laboratory and clinical findings into health promotion and prevention programs and for driving new paradigms and models of care.

5.3 The Professor of Paediatric Neurology Research is expected to provide leadership in Neuroscience and Developmental Paediatrics.

6. SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- (i) A medical qualification potentially registrable in Victoria
- (ii) A research doctorate
- (iii) Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of Physicians or equivalent
- (iv) A distinguished career in Paediatric Neurology
- (v) A strong and current record of success in obtaining external peer reviewed research grants.
- (vi) A strong and current record in paediatric epilepsy research, as evidenced by a superior publication record.

Desirable

- (i) A strong record of involvement and achievement in undergraduate and postgraduate medical education.
- (ii) A demonstrated capability for strong academic leadership.
- (iii) Management ability.
- (iv) Commitment to teamwork based on shared directions and values.
- (v) Ability to communicate openly at all levels and ensure that information and opportunities are developed to improve research performance of the hospitals (AH/NH and RCH) and University departments.

7. PRIVATE OUTSIDE WORK

The applicant would be eligible to apply under the University's Outside Work Rules for up to 13 days pro rata per quarter of paid outside work independent from the University.

8. CONDITIONS OF APPOINTMENT

The appointee will be jointly responsible in his/her academic roles to the Heads of the Department of Medicine (AH/NH) and the Department of Paediatrics (RCH) and through them to the Dean and Head of the School of Medicine, in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, The University of Melbourne. These academic roles include activities in teaching and research, including the supervision of candidates for higher degrees of the University of Melbourne.

The remuneration for this position will comprise a full time University salary at Level E with a clinical loading. The appointment will be for 5 years. Following appropriate review, there is the possibility of re-appointment.

Clinical duties associated with this position will be negotiated with Austin Health and Royal Children's Hospital with appropriate sessional remuneration .

9. UNIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS OF A PROFESSOR

The attention of applicants is drawn to the paper "University Expectations of a Professor" which is included as an attachment to "Professor of the University – General Information, Conditions of Appointment and Method of Application".

10. CLOSING DATE

The closing date for receipt of applications is

11. APPLICATION AND ENQUIRY PROCEDURE

- 11.1 Further information about the position, including details of application procedure, conditions of outside work, superannuation, travel and removal expenses, housing assistance and conditions of appointment is available on the internet: <http://www.hr.unimelb.edu.au>
- 11.2 All correspondence and applications marked Personal and Confidential should be addressed to the Deputy Principal Human Resources, The University of Melbourne, 3010, Victoria, Australia. Secure facsimile 61 (3) 8344 6080
- 11.3 Enquiries of an academic nature should be addressed to Head of the Department of Medicine AH/NH Professor Jeffrey Zajac, telephone 61 3 9496 5198 email j.zajac@unimelb.edu.au or to the Head of Department of Paediatrics RCH Professor Glenn Bowes telephone 61 3 9345 5161 email gbowes@unimelb.edu.au.