



Melbourne Centre
for Cities

the MELBOURNE CENTRE for CITIES

CENTRE FELLOWS PROGRAM





MELBOURNE CENTRE FOR CITIES FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Role description and affiliation outline for Fellows of the Melbourne Centre for Cities.

Centre mission and purpose

Cities are on the frontline of today's most pressing global challenges. The way we manage and study cities, and how city leadership is thought of in an interconnected but disrupted world, are critical to our collective futures. This is where the University of Melbourne's new Melbourne Centre for Cities comes in with an explicit focus on urban governance as its main area of research, action and training, and a distinct purpose to foster and foreground cities research in and from Melbourne with a clear cosmopolitan outlook. The Centre focuses on the role of cities in major societal challenges, how city leadership can address them, and the information needed to do so in a connected but also disrupted and unequal time. The Centre takes an explicit international point of view on pressing questions for urban governance. It does so by aiming to work with peers and places around the globe, explicitly connecting cities, urban researchers and key stakeholders in city leadership. Engagement by University of Melbourne staff with the Centre is foreseen to be both formal and informal. Formalised University of Melbourne faculty staff engagement in its academic life is achieved through both the Centre's Fellowship and the broader Associates program.

Purpose of the role:

Centre Fellows are University of Melbourne staff who hold a role appointed either directly through the Melbourne Centre for Cities, or that make a formal commitment to dedicate a specific section of their working time to Centre duties. Fellows are recognized to formally engage in the Centre's academic life as core team of the Centre, uphold its mission and activities within the Centre, with external partners and indeed across campus. Fellows operate within the specifics of their underpinning role's responsibilities compliant as per University and host Faculty guidance. They are recognized in Centre materials and activities and are typically provided either with dedicated space or else access to Centre offices, and are engaged directly in career development, outreach and other core Centre programs. Centre Fellows are provided by the Centre with a variety of support and activities and are in turn expected to play a significant part in its work and development. Fellows partake directly in Centre development programs (e.g. for early career academics) and exchange or workshop activities (e.g. centre seminar series) along with the specific duties in their Fellowship role (e.g. as postdoctoral researcher or as Centre leadership), leading in organising Centre projects and events like faculty forums or the university symposium, facilitated external and international engagements, and more.

Key responsibilities

1. Deliver on a defined area of fellowship focus in collaboration with relevant Centre staff and supervisors, in the advancement of cities research at the University of Melbourne
2. Engage in collaborative and interdisciplinary activities with other Centre colleagues.
3. Take active part in the regular life of the Centre through common weekly activities.

Role requirements

A Centre Fellow role entails a formal affiliation with the Melbourne Centre for Cities for a continuing or fixed-term academic staff member of the University of Melbourne, recognized formally through the Centre at either recruitment or Fellowship appointment. Appointment to Centre Fellow, which requires formal endorsement for a relevant supervisor or head of department in recognition of the time commitment, is for a minimum of 1 year in duration, renewable, where not otherwise specified (e.g. in Position Description for direct recruitment by the Centre). Fellows are requested to engage in collaborative and interdisciplinary activities with other Centre colleagues. Centre Fellows have varying commitments to Centre activities but are all equally required to take active part in:

1. regular Core all-staff activities (e.g. fortnightly Centre catch up) ,
2. annual all-staff activities (e.g. the 'Cities @ Melbourne' symposium, Centre annual retreat)
3. and other bespoke events/engagements as per reasonably determined with Centre management and collaborating Centre programs and Fellows.