Position Description
Senior Research Associate
Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research

Level: B  Date: 15 January 2015

School/Unit: Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research
Faculty/Division: UNSW Business School
Written by: Professor Michael Sherris

POSITION SUMMARY
A Senior Research Associate (Level B academic) will perform research and collaborate with investigators on an Australian Research Council Linkage grant project with industry and partners including the Network for Studies on Pensions, Aging and Retirement (NetSPAR) on choice, decisions and drawdown structures for retirement incomes.

ORGANISATIONAL ENVIRONMENT
Overview of the Work Unit
The ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research (CEPAR) is located in the UNSW Business School. Established in 2011, CEPAR is administered by the University of New South Wales (UNSW), has nodes at the University of Sydney and the Australian National University (ANU) and has thirteen (13) official partners drawn from industry and academe.

The UNSW Business School has as a strategic priority the development of high quality research, evidenced in strong publication performance, success in nationally competitive grants, and PhD enrolments and completions. CEPAR contributes, significantly and organically, to all these goals.

CEPAR has strong synergies with the Australian Institute for Population Ageing Research and close links with the Schools of Economics and Actuarial Studies in the UNSW Business School.
Statistics

- CEPAR currently consists of eight (8) chief investigators and five (5) international partner investigators as well as a growing team of research fellows and research students. At the UNSW node, AIPAR hosts four of the CEPAR CIs as well as twelve (12) research fellows, ten (10) PhD students and four (4) honours students.
- The Centre’s budget is in excess of $23 million over seven (7) years and is expected to increase as the Centre attracts additional funding.
- It is expected that the Centre will host one (1) major conference annually as well as a number of smaller workshops.

Reporting Relationships

Supervisor’s title: Chief Investigator
Other positions reporting to the supervisor: Research Fellows, Senior Research Fellow and Research Assistants *number dependent upon project requirements
Positions reporting to this position (show position titles and levels): None

KEY DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develop, assess and apply original research concepts for the research aims of the project in the area of retirement incomes and discrete choice experiments
- Develop and assess models, software, databases, computational techniques for the research project
- Analyse and interpret data and communicate results
- Assist with the preparation of manuscripts, abstracts, and grant applications as appropriate
- Collaborate with investigators including industry partners on model development and applications under the research project
- Interact with project researchers, industry partners and research students and participate in project meetings and discussions
- Timely and high quality production of research working papers, conference proceedings and journal publications in the project research topic areas
- Present to academic and industry conferences, internationally and locally
- Pursuit and development of an active research program in collaboration with research project investigators and research students as agreed with supervisor
- Assist with organisation of symposium and conferences for presentation of project research outcomes
- Assist with supervision of research students and research assistants involved with the project
- Performing administrative duties required for the project
- Cooperate with all health and safety policies and procedures of the university and take all reasonable care to ensure that your actions or omissions do not impact on the health and safety of yourself or others
SELECTION CRITERIA

- A PhD in a relevant discipline such as economics, econometrics, actuarial studies or quantitative finance.
- Evidence of outstanding performance in research in a field relevant to the project including retirement incomes and discrete choice experiments.
- High level competency in computing modelling techniques and data analysis skills.
- Excellent communication skills in writing research papers and in presenting research.
- Proven ability to work both independently and as a member of a multi-disciplinary team.
- Knowledge of health and safety responsibilities and commitment to attending relevant health and safety training.

It is not the intention of the position description to limit the scope or accountabilities of the position but to highlight the most important aspects of the position. The aspects mentioned above may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the role.