

# LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

## La Trobe University Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

### Conditions of Award 2008

#### **1. Objectives of the Scheme**

Fellowships are intended to advance research activities on the various campuses of the University by bringing to or retaining in Australia promising researchers and scholars.

#### **2. Research Project**

The proposed research project must be in collaboration with a current University researcher and must complement an existing area of research activity on one of the University Campuses: Melbourne, Bendigo, Beechworth, Mildura, Shepparton or Wodonga.

The research project will be designated in the letter of offer and the major objectives of a Fellow's project shall not be altered without the written approval of the University.

#### **3. Period of the Fellowship**

A Fellowship will be awarded for a period of three years. Fractional appointments for a period of three years will be considered under special circumstances. New Fellowships must commence by 30 June of the year following the offer of appointment. An extension of this period may be granted where delay is beyond the control of the Fellow. Only one extension will be allowed.

The appointee shall commence on a date specified by the University, this normally being the date upon which a Fellow commences work on the approved project at the University.

Appointments will normally be subject to a probation period of six months, in accord with normal La Trobe University policy. The University may terminate a Fellowship if it is not satisfied with the progress or performance of a Fellow.

#### **4. Salary**

The salary is within the range of Level A (Research), currently A\$57,759 pa. - A\$62,000 pa which is subject to Australian income tax laws. The Fellow and the University will make the required contribution towards a superannuation scheme. Fellows will have access to up to \$5,000 pa research support, including conference attendance and maintenance.

#### **5. Payment of fares and expenses**

In the case of a Fellow who, at the time of accepting the Fellowship, resides outside the locale of the respective campus where the research will be conducted, the University may meet all or part of the costs of travelling expenses. Expenses included are the cost of the direct economy class air fare, as well as a resettlement allowance to cover expenses such as cost of transportation of personal and household effects, initial accommodation on arrival, legal services, school uniforms, etc.

The University may also meet the cost of the direct economy airfare of a Fellow's spouse and dependent children. To become eligible for this assistance, a Fellow must enter into an agreement to repay the University the full amount paid for travel and resettlement allowances if a Fellow resigns before completing the three-year Fellowship, unless in the view of the University, exceptional circumstances apply.

Allowances will be paid in accordance with La Trobe University Policy.

## **6. Other Benefits**

During the period of the Fellowship, a Fellow will be considered by the University to be a member of academic staff and will enjoy similar benefits as other staff on fixed term appointments (e.g. sickness, hours of employment, holiday leave).

## **7. Teaching**

Fellowships are for research only. Teaching duties are not normally permitted and may only be undertaken with the University's approval.

## **8. Research Expenses of Project**

The Faculty/School with which the Fellow will be associated normally provides all reasonable facilities essential to the research project. The University encourages Fellows to apply for research funding from external funding bodies.

## **9. Reporting Requirement**

An interim progress report (of not more than 1,000 words, which will normally form part of the probation review) is required five months after the Fellowship has commenced, with a full progress report (of not more than 2,000 words) due twelve months from commencement. A final report on all activities undertaken is due within two months of the termination of the Fellowship.

## **10. Further Information**

All enquires on academic issues should be directed to the relevant Head of School or the Research and Graduate Studies Office.