

CONTEXT OF THE POSITION

Physiotherapy deals with the prevention and treatment of human movement disorders. Our graduates work in a wide variety of areas such as health care organisations, community, sports and workplace settings, schools and private practices and are committed to effective communication with members of the health team and the community at large.

As one of the foundation disciplines of the Faculty of Health Sciences (formerly Cumberland College of Health Sciences) at the College's inception in 1975, the Discipline of Physiotherapy has played an important role in the development of the faculty and its academic programs. Prior to 1975, there was a physiotherapy program conducted through the Australian Physiotherapy Association in New South Wales, which had been offered since its inception in 1907.

The physiotherapy profession is committed to effective communication with members of the health team, the community at large and the continuing education of its graduates. Staff and students of the discipline are actively involved in a number of research projects which range over several areas including the investigation of human motor performance, musculoskeletal, neurological and cardiopulmonary physiotherapy, occupational health and clinical reasoning.

In common with other departments at the University of Sydney, the discipline promotes students' development of generic (ie communication and teamwork) skills as well as discipline-specific knowledge and skills. The course is designed to promote self-direction and encourages the graduates to have a sense of their own individuality and creativity.

Graduates of the undergraduate and postgraduate programs in physiotherapy will be prepared for a range of career opportunities. These include physiotherapy clinical practice, clinical education, administration, research, and consultancy within the public and private health care sectors.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential criteria

- Hold a PhD in physiotherapy or a closely related discipline.
- Demonstrate outstanding scholarship and research of international standing in a particular field of knowledge with a breadth of understanding of other research interests represented in the faculty.
- Demonstrate a proven record of leading research teams, working collaboratively across sectors and disciplines, including a successful grant and publication track record, and significant experience in recruiting and successfully supervising postgraduate research students.
- Provide evidence of ability to take an active role in the maintenance of academic standards in the development of educational policy and of curriculum areas within the discipline.
- Demonstrate a strong commitment to the importance of teaching at all levels and to innovation in curriculum design and teaching methods, together with a distinguished personal contribution to teaching.
- Demonstrate good management skills and a willingness and ability to perform high level administrative tasks.
- Demonstrate ability to provide leadership in policy development in a discipline and to represent the faculty's scholarly and general interests within the University and the wider community.
- Demonstrate a proven record of encouraging the development of staff, recognising and resolving potential conflict and maintaining good personal relations with and between staff.
- Demonstrate participation in and provision of leadership in community affairs, particularly those related to the discipline in professional, commercial and industrial sectors where appropriate.

Desirable criteria

- Hold or be eligible for registration with the physiotherapists registration board of New South Wales for candidates who will teach or research in areas of physiotherapy clinical practice.
- Ideally demonstrate a successful record of working collaboratively with clinicians, researchers and other academics.