**Scope of Position**

The Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) is calling for open entry positions on its working party for the ‘Cancer Diagnostics’ subject within the Master of Cancer Sciences and its nested programming. Working Party membership is an honorary role that will involve providing knowledge and advice to guide the development of the subject.

The Cancer Diagnostics subject development process will take place from May to December 2020 and is scheduled for delivery in Term 1 2021 (February-April). The Master of Cancer Sciences and its nested programming is a collaborative initiative between the VCCC and University of Melbourne.

The time commitment required is likely to vary, dependent on individual capacity and the activities and milestones of the program. However, there will be a few meetings during the development phase (via zoom). Additionally, you may be contacted by email with specific questions/queries.

**Working party members have a rare opportunity to:**

* Contribute to the first cancer specific, multidisciplinary and wholly online nested Masters program offered in Australia and one of only two available in the world.
* Provide content expertise and write content for development of the Cancer Diagnostics subject.
* Nominate the most appropriate faculty to present directed instruction, comprise panels, or be involved in other educational activities.
* Design educational activities and presentations and written content in collaboration with the Subject Development Coordinator, working party and Melbourne School of Professional and Continuing Education (MSPACE) team at the University of Melbourne.
* Assist in the development of assessment materials including questions, answers, marking rubrics etc.
* Collaborate with like-minded peers across the VCCC alliance to develop a Master’s level subject.

**The Master of Cancer Sciences**

The Master of Cancer Sciences is a landmark collaborative initiative between the VCCC and the University of Melbourne. It will be the first cancer specific, multidisciplinary and wholly online Spec Cert, Grad Cert and Masters program offered in Australia. It will be a multidisciplinary program for cancer clinicians from the fields of medical oncology, radiation oncology, surgery, haematology, nursing, allied health and other health professions. This will position the VCCC as a centre for educational excellence, contributing to the creation of a world class workforce that improves the experience and outcomes of cancer patients.

**The Subject – Cancer Diagnostics**

There is now a vast array of diagnostic tools and techniques available to clinicians to aid in cancer diagnosis. In this subject, students will learn the indications, mechanisms and utility of each of these diagnostic tools. Students will also learn about the best practice diagnostic pathways that exist to facilitate accurate, efficient and cost-effective cancer diagnostics.

*Learning outcomes*

* Demonstrate knowledge of the diagnostic imaging tools and techniques available, their appropriate indications and limitations
* Demonstrate knowledge of the pathological tests, including molecular and genomic approaches, that are used to diagnose and classify cancers
* Critically analyse and construct appropriate diagnostics pathways
* Identify and evaluate the emerging technologies and techniques in cancer diagnostics

*Potential topics:*

* Tumour pathology, tumour grading and staging
* Histopathology and cytopathology
* Path Lab demystified, interpreting reports
* Basic principles of histology, Immunohistochemistry
* Principles of mammogram, ultrasound, lymphoscintigraphy
* Pathology lab techniques, biomarkers, diagnostic and predictive factors
* Molecular techniques, flow cytometry, karyotyping and cytogenetics, FISH
* Radiology, MRI, CT, PET (FET, PMSA), SPECT
* Diagnostic screening, inherited cancers, cytogenetics
* Genomics, RT-PCR, NGS, liquid biopsy

**Assessment:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Assessment (Including Extent/Duration)** | **Timing of Assessment** | **Assessment %** |
| Case Based Assessment (1000 word equivalent) | End of Week 4 | 20 |
| Presentation via web platform (10 minutes, 1000 word equivalent) | End of Week 6 | 20 |
| Written assignment (2500 words) | End of teaching period | 50 |
| Participation in Discussion Board discourse (500 word equivalent) | Week to week | 10 |

**The Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre**

The Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre was established in 2009 and is a powerful alliance of ten successful Victorian organisations committed to cancer control: Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Melbourne Health (including The Royal Melbourne Hospital), The University of Melbourne, The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, The Royal Women’s Hospital, The Royal Children’s Hospital, Western Health, St Vincent’s Hospital Melbourne (including St Vincent's Institute), Austin Health (including the Olivia Newton-John Cancer Research Institute and Austin Lifesciences) and Murdoch Children’s Research Institute. The alliance brings together a critical mass of expertise in cancer research, education and care to drive innovation and more rapid translation of new research and evidence into routine clinical care.

**The VCCC Strategic Research Plan**

The VCCC Strategic Research Plan 2017-20 (SRP) is a new $30 million program supported by the Victorian State Government, that sets out a structured approach to tackle some of the big challenges in cancer with the aim of bringing about long-lasting benefits for the Victorian community. The Master of Cancer Science forms one of the 19 programs within the SRP. The development of customised postgraduate education and training has been consistently identified as a need across the VCCC and aligns with the strategic objectives of becoming a leading national and regional centre for cancer education and training that fosters a skilled, high calibre, sustainable workforce in Victoria to meet the demands of future cancer management.

**Position Overview**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  **Job Title** | **Cancer Diagnostics - Subject working party** |
| **Under the academic oversight of** | * VCCC Course Convenors - Dr David Kok and Prof Grant McArthur
 |
| **Key Relationships**  | **Internal:**Course Convenors - Dr David Kok and Prof Grant McArthur* VCCC Course Convenors - Dr David Kok and Prof Grant McArthur
* VCCC Subject Development Coordinators – Associate Professor Kais Kaseem & Dr Kate Stewart
* VCCC Head of Education and Training - Michelle Barrett
* VCCC Project Lead Graduate Programs – Dr Sathana Dushyanthen
* VCCC Cancer Diagnostics Working Party members
* VCCC Cancer Diagnostics Teaching Faculty members
* VCCC Alliance partners
* Consumer representative

**External:*** MSPACE, University of Melbourne
* Project manager
* Learning designer
* Production team (Graphic Designers, Education Technologists, Programmers, Videographers)
 |
| **Key Effectiveness Areas** | * Assist and support the development of educational activities, presentations, written content and additional resources in the Cancer Diagnostics subject in collaboration with the rest of the working party.
* Provide input, advice, content expertise and resources for the subject.
* Involvement and engagement in ongoing discussions with the educational development team in relation to best teaching practice; cancer science, care and education.
* Provide suggestions on the most appropriate faculty to present directed instruction, comprise panels, or interview subjects etc.
* Assist in the development of assessment materials including questions, answers, marking rubrics etc.
 |
| **Key Selection Criteria** | **Essential*** Expert level knowledge of ONE of the topics listed for inclusion in the subject.
* Demonstrated commitment to excellence in teaching.

**Desirable*** MBBS, MD, PhD or other relevant clinical or scientific qualification.
* PhD or equivalent research training or teaching in the field/ area.
* Well-developed experience in curriculum design and preparing and delivering educational resources.
* Demonstrated excellence in verbal and written communication.
* Strong interpersonal skills, with an ability to build and maintain relationships with key stakeholders (internal and external) and work collaboratively to achieve outcomes.
* Clinical practice in a relevant area.

**Special Requirements:*** Working party members may or may not be invited to act as teaching faculty within the Cancer Diagnostics subject.
 |

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

Applications are open for experienced researchers, clinicians, allied health professionals or educators working within one of the VCCC partner organisations. If you are highly motivated to join this working group, please express your interest by completing this form, and attach a copy of your CV, no later than COB **Wednesday 17th June 2020.**

**Please direct applications to:**

Dr Sathana Dushyanthen, Graduate Programs Lead – Master of Cancer Sciences, VCCC

sathana.dushyanthen@unimelb.edu.au

**Please direct queries to:**

Associate Professor Kais Kasem

kais.kasem@unimelb.edu.au

Dr Kate Stewart

katiealex2@gmail.com

**Expression of interest form:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **First Name:**  |  |
| **Surname:** |  |
| **Preferred Email:** |  |
| **Contact Phone:**  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| *Please provide a short statement that supports your application including your relevant experience that addresses the key effectiveness areas, and what you believe you can contribute to this working party (400 words maximum)*  |

NB. Please ensure you attach your CV to the application.