

Position Title:	Executive Director, WA Health Translation Network
Position Classification:	Fixed Annual Remuneration
Position Number:	314180
School/Division:	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
Supervisor Title:	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
Supervisor Position Number:	308975

About WA Health Translation Network

Executive summary

The WA Health Translation Network (WAHTN) is an unincorporated body accredited by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) as an Advanced Health Research and Translation Centre (AHRTC). WAHTN seeks to engage all health researchers and health professionals in Western Australia. It brings together in partnership all 5 WA Universities - Curtin University, Edith Cowan University, Murdoch University, the University of Notre Dame Australia and the University of Western Australia (which acts as the Partner Agent); the WA Department of Health, the five Health Service Boards of WA and their associated hospitals, the Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research, the Lions Eye Institute, the Lung Institute of Western Australia, Telethon Kids Institute, and the Perron Institute for Neurological and Translational Sciences. WAHTN actively promotes health research through a series of enabling platforms that catalyse, facilitate and unify researchers across WA. As a member of the Australian Health Research Alliance (AHRA), WAHTN is committed to collaboration with the other 6 accredited AHRTC's in Australia and to proactively support health research and its translation with a particular focus on improving health services and health outcomes for the people of WA.

Health research in WA, broadly has 4 major themes: -
Life-course and non-communicable disease;
Public health, with strong emphasis on Aboriginal health;
Infection and Immunity;
Genetics and Inherited diseases.

Objective:

To achieve better health outcomes for all Western Australians through integrated research and its translation into clinical care delivery, and to ensure that Health and Medical Research (HMR) is made an essential element of the health system in WA, results of which are translated into policy and practice at the highest international standards.

WAHTN aims to achieve that objective by innovative, integrated programs amongst partner institutions that:

- Provide an overarching framework that is co-operative and inclusive, responding to the needs of the health system;
- Build co-operation and collaboration;
- Enhance research translation at the highest international standards by catalysing, facilitating and unifying;
- Involve consumers in all aspects of health research translation to guide research institutions, researchers, consumers and community members in the active involvement of consumers and community members in all aspects of health and medical research, to recognise societal needs and to ensure equal opportunity of access;
- Provide opportunity for trainees and support of emerging researchers.

WAHTN has 4 major goals:

- Goal 1: To build effective and sustainable relationships between partners, consumers, funders and Government
- Goal 2: To identify key areas of expertise, opportunity and need for health research translation and delivery
- Goal 3: To enable research in an equitable, effective and efficacious manner
- Goal 4: To build profile, public presence and outreach for health research translation

About the University of Western Australia

The UWA is acting as Centre Agent for the Executive Board of the WAHTN. The UWA has an international reputation for excellence and enterprise and is ranked in the top 100 universities worldwide. The University is one of the country's leading research institutions and the only WA member of the prestigious "Group of Eight" research Universities. UWA's mission is to provide world-class education, research and community engagement for the advancement of the prosperity and welfare of our communities.

Executive Director's role

The Executive Director will provide strong and dynamic leadership in the development and promotion of WAHTN for the shared benefit of all partners in the area of WA health research, and as a member of and contributor to the Australian Health Research Alliance. The Executive Director will supervise the WAHTN central administration, interact with and set standards and impact guidelines for all the WAHTN enabling platforms and build collaboration with WAHTN partners and Government.

The Executive Director is responsible to the Executive Board, which comprises representatives from the universities, the hospitals, consumer organisations, medical research bodies, Aboriginal institutions, Government and an independent Chair.

Purpose of Role

- To provide outstanding leadership and enthusiasm that builds collaboration and co-operation amongst partners and other key stakeholders, supporting development of the WAHTN across the broader community and Government, to achieve WAHTN's major goals, and to manage any potential or perceived conflicts of interest between any of the partners.
- Through this leadership, to play an instrumental role in:
 - Building a culture in which health research is seen as an essential and integral element in health service delivery across WA, such that evidence-based health research is translated into the provision of clinical care, the development of new healthcare policies and the creation of innovation and commercialisation opportunity
 - Creating an environment in which innovative health and medical research will lead as quickly as possible to improved care for patients and the health of the community.
 - Ensuring that consumers are actively engaged in all aspects of health research, including its generation, translation and impact evaluation
 - Developing and generating support for shared enabling platforms that catalyse, facilitate and unify health research in WA.
- To represent the WAHTN on behalf of the Board and partner organisations in its interactions with all levels of Government and bring together common mechanisms to help drive health translation research.
- To work closely with other accredited AHRTC's in defining common goals and opportunities for translationally-focused health research across Australia.
- To seek proactively new opportunities for support of health research from local, national and international sources and through mechanisms such as the State and Commonwealth Medical Research Future Funds

Key responsibilities

The Executive Director is expected to establish defined impact assessment measures ensuring that health translation research in WA continues to be conducted at an internationally competitive standard, and that WAHTN fulfils its obligations as an accredited member of AHRA. The Executive Director will also be required to actively engage with key stakeholders and represent the WAHTN to key institutions and major funding bodies with a view to supporting collaborative programs in health research translation and to

ensure the long-term viability of the WAHTN by:

- Reviewing, revising and putting into practice the WAHTN Strategic Plan and ensuring collaborative engagement with the full range of health care professionals in its activities.
- Developing a regularly updated data base of health and medical researchers identifying areas of activity, areas of technical expertise and opportunities for collaboration and funding.
- Reviewing the current organisational structure of WAHTN to increase the free sharing of research information, translational and collaborative opportunities.
- Working with key stakeholders in each of WAHTN's Enabling Platforms to ensure quality and sustainability of each of these programs, optimal access and opportunity to utilise them across and amongst all health professionals.
- Working with key stakeholders in each of the WAHTN's major theme areas to facilitate collaborative opportunities between health professionals and free exchanges of information along health research translation pipeline.
- Working closely with Government and other stakeholders to facilitate the creation of training and career opportunities in health research and translation
- Ensuring that there is active consumer and community involvement within all WAHTN partners.
- Working closely with partner members of AHRA to promote and publicise the importance of health research and its translation into practice.

Your specific work capabilities (selection criteria)

- Relevant tertiary qualifications
- Substantial track record in one or more areas of health research, including research translation
- Experience in governance and leadership of organisations, including development and implementation of strategic plans and business plans
- Superior interpersonal, networking, communication, negotiation and relationship building skills with a demonstrated ability to influence others to achieve strategic objectives
- Substantial knowledge and management experience in the areas of research, finance, contract management, human resources (especially cultural change) and marketing
- Ability to work independently, take initiative, identify opportunities and act as a key representative for the WAHTN to further its mission
- Substantial experience in a Research, University or Government environment and a demonstrated ability to coordinate across all of these sectors
- Direct clinical experience, or appropriate understanding of the clinical health professional environment
- Highly developed planning and organisational skills with demonstrated experience in dealing with complex issues involving multiple stakeholders
- Highly developed conceptual, analytical and problem solving skills with successful record of addressing identified problems/issues with practical solutions and outcomes
- Generosity of time and commitment to the advancement of others.

Position Approvals

Approvals are now electronic. No signature section needed.

Compliance

Workplace Health and Safety

All staff must comply with requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act and all reasonable directives given in relation to health and safety at work, to ensure compliance with University and Legislative health and safety requirements.

All supervising staff are required to undertake effective measures to ensure compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984 and related University requirements (including Safety, Health and Wellbeing Objectives and Targets). Details of the safety obligations can be accessed at <http://www.safety.uwa.edu.au>

Equity and Diversity

All staff members are required to comply with the University's Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct and Equity and Diversity principles. Details of the University policies on these can be accessed at

[http://www.hr.uwa.edu.au/publications/code of ethics](http://www.hr.uwa.edu.au/publications/code_of_ethics), <http://www.equity.uwa.edu.au>

Professional Development

All Staff are to complete a Professional Development Review Annually. If you wish to read the University policies on Professional Development Review please click [here](#).