



Whitley College invites expressions of interest from suitably qualified scholars in the position of:

Dean of Research and Program* Director – Full-time (1.0EFT)

Whitley College

As the Baptist College of Victoria and as an agency of the Baptist Union, Whitley College:

- provides a safe, pastoral, yet dynamic and creative learning environment for students;
- provides high quality theological education through a comprehensive range of diplomas, degrees, and advanced research programs accredited by the University of Divinity;
- provides flexible and innovative formation programs and professional development opportunities in fulfilling its purpose to equip men and women for leadership and service in the ministries and public witness of the Church in a rapidly changing society, and;
- works closely with partners and stakeholders to ensure its programs are of the highest educational quality, relevant to ministry practice where appropriate, and practitioner-engaged.

University of Divinity

Whitley College is one of the colleges of the University of Divinity and part of its collegiate structure. The University of Divinity promotes the highest standards of scholarship in theology, philosophy and ministry. Through scholarship, the University aims to address the issues of the contemporary world.

Primary objectives

Whitley is seeking expressions of interest in the position of Dean of Research and Program Director. *

The Dean of Research and Program Director* will:

- lead and coordinate the Research and HDR programs of Whitley College;
- lead and participate in the development and delivery of teaching and research at Whitley College. Currently we lack a senior academic able to lead in the area of New Testament studies, but will consider applicants with other disciplinary strengths;
- operate as a senior academic and scholar in her or his theological discipline, with the expectation that they will seek promotion to the academic rank of Professor of the University, with subsequent amendment to the contract associated with this role.

** We will name the role to reflect the disciplinary strengths and academic ranking of the successful candidate.*

Key responsibilities

With appropriate support, the Dean of Research and Program Director:

- direct and develop the HDR programs of the College, maintaining the position of the College as a leader in PhD programs within the University;
- direct and develop the research activities of the College, with a research focus attentive to inter-disciplinary methodologies and perspectives;
- nurture and develop the network of University honorary researchers working in association with the College;
- play an active part of the leadership of the College;
- provide strategic research leadership within the College and the University;
- nurture research collaboration with stakeholders of the College (Baptist agencies, students, staff, churches), the University, and other Universities in Australia and elsewhere;
- oversee the design and delivery of a range of theological Units in co-operation with other faculty (adjunct and full-time) in the College and the University of Divinity;
- teach up to a maximum of two units per year, according to workload capacity;
- Supervise HDR students;
- Undertake research for presentation and publication, that contributes new knowledge and understanding in their theological discipline, thereby maintain University research active status and advancing their academic profile, nationally and internationally.
- Provide pastoral support and encourage for students through their learning experience, communal life, and professional relationships.
- Undertake necessary administrative and organisational tasks, from time to time, within the public-facing and educational programs of the College.

Essential skills, knowledge, and experience

- A PhD or equivalent in a relevant field.
- Current academic status at Associate Professor or above (Levels D or E).
- Demonstrable experience of a senior academic leadership or academic administrative role for at least five years.
- Qualifications and experience appropriate for a Principal HDR Supervisor within the University of Divinity.
- A dynamic and creative approach to reading and interpreting the whole Bible as Living Word.
- Able to affirm the strategic purposes of Whitley College.

Preferred skills, knowledge, and experience

- Understanding of, and sympathy with, the baptistic identity, affiliations, and context of Whitley College.
- Highly developed interpersonal skills and a helpful and professional manner supporting the ability to communicate effectively, clearly and sensitively with a diverse range of people.
- Active membership of relevant New scholarly associations and bodies.

Process for applications

During the second half of 2024, Whitley College intends to make a permanent appointment and is inviting applications from members of the University academic community and beyond.

The following is offered for your guidance.

- a. Familiarise yourself with this document and any attachments, the web pages of Whitley College and the University of Divinity.
- b. Prepare a covering letter, supported by a CV/resumé, in which you show how you are suited to undertake and fulfil the responsibilities, skills, and experience highlighted in this document. We especially welcome candidates able to offer tangible examples of competency and experience.
- c. We welcome contact from interested parties seeking clarification about the role as they prepare their application, likely to involve conversation with the Principal. This invites mutual discovery and exploration moving towards a closer match of person and role.

Applications will open from 1st July 2024 and will remain open until a successful candidate is appointed. Initial selection from interested applicants will be made by a committee representing the interests of Whitley College's stakeholders, with an invitation to interview at a time and place mutually agreeable to both the applicant and the selection committee.

Following a successful interview and offer of appointment, a contract will be offered beginning on a date towards the end of 2024.

Contact details

Applications should be addressed to Carrie Chiu, the Executive Assistant to the Principal of Whitley College, Rev Associate Professor Darrell Jackson. Carrie Chiu can be contacted by email at cchiu@whitley.edu.au and can put you in touch with the principal at your request.