# Postdoctoral Fellowship – CSOF4

Role summary for potential applicants

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| Advertised Job Title**:** | Postdoctoral Fellowship in Microbial/Viral Genomics |
| Reference Number**:** | 57317 |
| Classification**:** | CSOF4 |
| Salary Range: | AU $80,833 to AU $91,451 plus up to 15.4% superannuation |
| Location**:** | Black Mountain ACT |
| Tenure: | Specified Term 3 years |
| Relocation assistance**:** | Will be provided to the successful candidate if required. |
| Applications are open to: | * All Candidates |
| Functional Area**:** | Research Scientist / Engineer - Postdoc |
| % Client Focus - Internal: | 0% |
| % Client Focus - External: | 100% |
| Reports to the: | Team Leader Invasive Animals |
| Number of Direct Reports: | 0 |

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| **Role Overview:** |
| **Postdoctoral Fellowships** at CSIRO provide opportunities to scientists and engineers who have completed their doctorate and have less than three years relevant postdoctoral work experience. These fellowships will help launch their careers, provide experience that will enhance their career prospects, and facilitate the recruitment and development of potential leaders for CSIRO.  Postdoctoral Fellows **are appointed for up to three years or part time equivalent** and will work closely with a leading Research Scientist or Engineer in their respective field. They carry out innovative, impactful research of strategic importance to CSIRO with the possibility of novel and important scientific outcomes. They present the findings in appropriate publications and at conferences.  Rabbits are one of Australia’s most damaging invasive pests. They cause upwards of 200 million $AUD annually in losses to agriculture, as well as severe damage to the environment, with over 300 native animal and plant species threatened by rabbits. Several viral pathogens are currently circulating in Australian rabbit populations, which together contribute significantly to controlling rabbit numbers. However, their geographical distribution and possible interactions with other pathogens is not well understood. This project aims to increase our understanding of the diversity of potential pathogens affecting rabbits and the role of hares and predators as potential disease reservoirs and mechanical transmission vectors, to improve decision making for the management of wild, and the protection of domestic, rabbits.  In the role of CSIRO Postdoctoral Fellow in Microbial/Viral Genomics, you will join a dynamic interdisciplinary team working at the interface of applied and fundamental science in a highly collaborative environment. As part of this project, you will be responsible for independently carrying out microbiome/virome analyses of samples from rabbits and hares, with the aim to identify pathogens in deceased animals and understand the microbial/viral diversity in healthy animals. You will also apply specific molecular diagnostic methods to test for known viral pathogens in lagomorphs and their predators, and participate in ongoing studies investigating the molecular epidemiology and evolution of rabbit caliciviuses in Australia. |

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| **Duties and Key Result Areas:** |
| * Under the direction of senior research scientists, carry out innovative, impactful research of strategic importance to CSIRO that will, where possible, lead to novel and important scientific outcomes. * Liaise with collaborators to organise and participate in sample collection. * Undertake regular reviews of relevant literature. * Produce high quality scientific papers suitable for publication in quality journals, for client reports and granting of patents. * Prepare appropriate conference papers and present those at conferences as agreed with your supervisor. * Contribute to the development of innovative concepts and ideas for further research. * Make a contribution to the effective functioning of the research team, including supervision of students, and help deliver CSIRO’s organisational objectives and plans. * Work collaboratively with colleagues within your team, the business unit and across CSIRO. * Communicate effectively and respectfully with all staff, clients and suppliers in the interests of good business practice, collaboration and enhancement of CSIRO’s reputation. * Adhere to the spirit and practice of CSIRO’s Values, Health, Safety and Environment plans and policies, Diversity initiatives and Zero Harm goals. * Undertake an appropriate training and development program developed by CSIRO. * Other duties as directed.   **CSIRO’s postdoctoral training program**is developed between the Postdoctoral Fellow and a CSIRO scientist or engineer. The program will focus on enhancing the Fellows’ capabilities to the level expected of an independent researcher and will include on-the-job and course-based development encompassing:   * Discipline-specific techniques and protocols * Professional growth * Project management * Communication and influencing skills * Working and collaborating with others   <http://www.csiro.au/en/Careers/Student-and-graduate-programs/Postdoctoral-fellowships> |

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| **Selection Criteria:** |
| *Under CSIRO policy only those who meet all essential criteria can be appointed*  ***Pre-Requisites:***   1. **Education/Qualifications:** A doctorate (or will shortly satisfy the requirements of a PhD) in a relevant discipline area, such as viral/microbial genomics.   ***Please note:*** *To be eligible for this role you must have* ***no more than 3 years (or part time equivalent)*** *of relevant postdoctoral experience.*   1. **Communication: High level written and oral communication skills with the ability to represent the research team effectively internally and externally, including at national and international conferences.** 2. **Publications: A record of publications in quality, peer reviewed journals.** 3. **Behaviours:** A history of professional and respectful behaviours and attitudes in a collaborative environment.   ***Essential Criteria:***   1. Demonstrated experience in generating and working with large bioinformatics datasets, with a focus on virome and/or microbiome analyses. 2. Strong demonstrated molecular biology experience, including nucleic acid extractions, PCR, RT-PCR, RT-qPCR, and NGS library preparation. 3. Experience with UNIX-based command line applications, basic scripting, phylogenetic reconstruction, and working in high performance computing environments. 4. Demonstrated strong oral and written communication skills, such as peer-reviewed publications or experience with high level reporting. 5. **The ability to work effectively as part of a multi-disciplinary, regionally dispersed research team, plus the motivation and discipline to carry out autonomous research.** 6. A record of science innovation and creativity, plus the ability & willingness to incorporate novel ideas and approaches into scientific investigations.   **Desirable Criteria:**   1. Demonstrated skills in infectious disease molecular epidemiology. 2. Demonstrated understanding of host-pathogen interactions. 3. Experience with serological diagnostic assays.   **As Australia’s Innovation Catalyst, CSIRO has strategic actions underpinned by behaviours aligned to**:   * Excellent science * Inclusion, trust & respect * Health, safety & environment * Delivery on commitments.   **In your application and at interview you will need to demonstrate alignment with these behaviours.**  To be appointed as a Postdoctoral Fellow within CSIRO, candidates are required to have **submitted** their PhD at the time of commencement, as a minimum requirement, if PhD conferment has not been obtained. If a candidate has submitted, but their PhD has not yet been formally attained, the starting salary will be CSOF4-1 (AU$80,833).Upon CSIRO receiving written confirmation that the PhD has been awarded (within a six month period from commencement date), the salary will be increased to the negotiated level and the difference will be back-paid to the Officer’s start date.  ***Special requirements:***  Appointment to this role may be subject to conditions including security/medical/character clearance requirements. Applicants who are not Australian Citizens or Permanent Residents may be required to undergo additional security clearance processes; which may include medical examinations and an international standardised test of English language proficiency (i.e. IELTS test).- <http://www.ielts.org/default.aspx>  To be appointed to this position you are required to have:   * A current Australian manual driver’s licence or the ability to obtain one. * Willingness and ability to work with rabbits including carrying out post mortems. |

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| **Other Information:** |
| **How to Apply**  Please apply for this position online at <https://jobs.csiro.au/> and enter requisition number **57317**. Internal applicants please apply via ‘Jobs Central’ in SAP (click ‘Recruitment’)  Please load your CV and cover letter including a response to the selection criteria (Maximum 2MB). You may also be required to respond to some screening questions.  If you experience difficulties applying online call 1300 984 220 for assistance. Outside Australian business hours please email: [csiro-careers@csiro.au](mailto:csiro-careers@csiro.au).  **Referees**: Please provide contact details of at least two previous supervisor or academic/professional referees in your resume/CV.  **Contact:** If after reading the position details above you require more information please contact:  **Dr Tanja Strive** via email: [tanja.strive@csiro.au](mailto:tanja.strive@csiro.au) **OR**  **Dr Robyn Hall**via email: [robyn.hall@csiro.au](mailto:tanja.strive@csiro.au)  Please do not email your application directly to Dr’s Strive or Hall. Applications received via this method may not be considered by the selection panel.  **About CSIRO**  Australia is founding its future on science and innovation. Its national science agency, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) is a powerhouse of ideas, technologies and skills for building prosperity, growth, health and sustainability. It serves governments, industries, business and communities across the nation.  Find out more! [www.csiro.au](http://www.csiro.au).  We work flexibly at CSIRO, offering a range of options for how, when and where you work. Talk to us about how this role could be flexible for you.  Find out more! [CSIRO Balance](https://www.csiro.au/en/Careers/A-great-place-to-work/Work-life-balance)  **CSIRO Health and Biosecurity** We're dedicated to conducting scientific research that develops products and services to address the complexity and interdependencies of human, animal and environmental health and biosecurity challenges to provide benefits to Australia and the world. |