JOB PURPOSE

Assist in our investigations into the developmental genetic context in which YAP functions to control skin stem/progenitor cells in normal and in disrupted skin biology.

MAIN DUTIES

• Culture mammalian cells and tissues
• Conduct physiological studies in rodents
• Perform Western blot and immunohistochemical analyses on animal tissue and cells
• Analyse gene expression using (q)RT-PCR
• Perform basic biochemical assays
• Cloning and manipulation of gene expression in cells and animals
• Conduct research activities with minimal day-to-day supervision
• Analyse data and prepare reports
• Produce high-quality research data for conference presentations, manuscripts and funding applications
• Assist with laboratory management including maintenance of equipment, maintaining stock levels of consumables, general laboratory tidiness
• Comply with OHS regulations, contribute to registers, write SWPs and RAs
• Other relevant duties as directed by the Supervisor
• Cooperate with all health and safety policies and procedures of the University and take all reasonable care that actions or omissions do not impact on the health and safety of others in the University

ENVIRONMENT

Statistics
The School of Medical Sciences consists of approximately 200 academic, professional & technical and research staff within the Departments of Anatomy, Physiology, Pharmacology and Pathology. The School's General funds yearly budget is approximately $16 million. The School is engaged inactive research programs with a total annual external funding of $8 million within the School. Sources of funding include the National Health and Medical Research Council, the Australian Research Council and the National Heart Foundation. The School of Medical Sciences delivers courses and programs to more than 5000 undergraduate, Honours and postgraduate students. In addition, the School also offers distance education programs

Position Context
The School occupies the Wallace Wurth (Medicine) building at UNSW, and is physically linked to both the Lowy Cancer Centre and the School of Biotechnology and Biomolecular Sciences. Core research facilities exist within this Biomedical Science precinct to fully support virtually all contemporary forms of biomedical research. The School is integrally linked to the Centre for Vascular Research and Brain Sciences UNSW Institute. It is adjacent to the Prince of Wales/Sydney Children's Hospital/Royal Women's Hospital complex at Randwick. Strong collaborative ties exist with the Children's Cancer Institute Australia, the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute, the Garvan Institute and the Victor Chang
Cardiac Research Institute. The role will operate within the Developmental and Regenerative Dermatology Laboratory located on the 2nd floor of the Wallace Wurth building.

Reporting Relationships

Supervisor’s title: Head of the Developmental and Regenerative Dermatology Laboratory
Other positions reporting to the supervisor: Various Researchers and Technical Staff.
Positions reporting to this position: None

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

The Research Assistant will be involved in the day to day running of the laboratory and provide:

- Satisfactory involvement in the research being conducted in the laboratory;
- Satisfactory maintenance of the laboratory to enable the running of experiments;
- Data analysis, including statistical evaluation and interpretation;
- Report writing, figure production and participation in manuscript production;
- Satisfactory fulfilment of general and specific laboratory duties.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- A Biomedical Science degree with Honours in a relevant discipline;
- Experience in animal handling and mouse genetics;
- Research experience with mammalian cell/tissue culture;
- Experience in molecular biology and/or biochemical techniques (e.g. molecular cloning, (q)RT-PCR, western blotting, enzyme assays);
- Experience with microscopic techniques including image analysis software;
- Excellent oral and written communication skills with relevant computing and data analysis skills;
- Ability to prioritise and complete requirements with minimal supervision;
- Knowledge of equal opportunity principles;
- Knowledge of OHS responsibilities and commitment to attending relevant OHS training