



Preclinical, Imaging & Research Laboratories

DIRECTOR VACANCY SUMMARY



Acknowledgment of Country

SAHMRI acknowledges the Kurna people as the Traditional Custodians of the Adelaide regions, where our buildings are located.

We recognise the Kurna peoples' cultural, spiritual, physical and emotional connection with their land. We honour and pay respects to Kurna Elders, both past and present, and all generations of Kurna people, now and into the future.

We also acknowledge and pay respects to all Traditional Owners and communities who live across Australia.





About SAHMRI

SAHMRI - the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute - was born in December 2009 following a review that was conducted by Professor John Shine and Mr Alan Young AM. The Review of Health and Medical Research in South Australia recommended the establishment of an independent research institute to increase South Australia's health and medical research capacity.

In response to this recommendation, the Federal Government's Health and Hospital Fund provided a \$200 million grant to build SAHMRI's headquarters at the north-western edge of Adelaide's CBD, a precinct that has since become Adelaide BioMed City - one of the largest health and medical research precinct in the Southern Hemisphere.

Strengthened by symbiotic partnerships spanning government, universities, the health system and private enterprise, SAHMRI exists to deliver innovative translational research addressing the most challenging health issues facing society across our lifespan.

At SAHMRI's core, driving our ambitious agenda, is our sincere commitment to equity - the belief that our discoveries should foremost benefit those most in need.



Living in SA

With its pristine beaches, beautiful parks, and excellent healthcare and education systems, Adelaide is an ideal place to call home.

Adelaide is a hidden gem in Australia, offering a compelling reason for anyone considering a move. Consistently ranking as one of the world's most liveable cities, it combines a relaxed, high-quality lifestyle with a thriving job market, making it a desirable destination for professionals and families.

Adelaide's affordability, world-class education and efficient healthcare system ensure your well-being and that of your loved ones. With stunning beaches, lush parks, a burgeoning arts scene, and a rich food and wine culture, Adelaide offers a myriad of recreational opportunities. Its welcoming community and safety record add to the city's charm, making it a wonderful place to call home. Whether you're seeking a change of pace, better career prospects, or simply a new adventure, Adelaide welcomes you with open arms, promising a fulfilling and enriching experience in this vibrant Australian city.



About PIRL

Preclinical, Imaging and Research Laboratories (PIRL) is a state-of-the-art research facility dedicated to advancing scientific knowledge and improving human and animal health.

As a leader in cutting-edge research, we offer an exciting and collaborative work environment, fostering innovation, and discovery. We are committed to pushing the boundaries of scientific exploration and contributing to a brighter future.

Located in Gilles Plains, 13 kilometres northeast of the Adelaide CBD, our 35-acre facility is the only purpose-built large and small animal NATA-accredited Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) research facility in Australia where surgical theatres and imaging equipment sit side-by-side with quality indoor and outdoor animal holding facilities.

The team at PIRL offers preclinical research support and expertise to a broad range of local and international clients including universities, biomedical and pharmaceutical companies and grant funded scientists.



About PIRL

Facilities include:

- 500-hectare Merino farm located two hours north of Adelaide, which houses sheep
- Five large surgical theatres
- Advanced imaging capabilities including 3T Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Computed Tomography/Positron Emission Tomography (CT/PET), mobile radiography and fluoroscopy, multipurpose fluoroscopy/cardiac catheterisation laboratory
- Surgical support areas
- 20 acres of paddocking for the holding of large animals
- BC1/PC2 certified paddocks, indoor holding and surgical theatres for projects involving imported material or genetically modified animals requiring this level of containment by Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) and/or Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR)
- Post-surgery progress from indoor pen holding, to undercover pens, to paddocks
- Designated post-mortem room
- 45-person AV-equipped meeting room
- Computer access, office space and access to amenities (kitchen and shower) for researchers

Our small animal capabilities include:

- Small Animal Facility (SAF; conventional housing)
- Gnotobiotic facility

The level of support and service provided is tailored to each individual project. We can provide support at all stages of the research process, including:

- Preparation of applications to Animal Ethics Committees
- Approval from regulatory bodies including the Office of Gene Technology Regulatory (OGTR) and Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF)
- Advice on experimental design and development of surgical techniques
- Teaching, training and workshops

PIRL offers a range of services for biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies wishing to establish safety or efficacy of their investigational new drugs and devices, in preparation for regulatory submission. Our research can be conducted to OECD Principles of Good Laboratory Practice (GLP).

Some examples of the services we provide include:

- Medical device safety and efficacy testing
- Acute and chronic toxicity studies
- Range finding studies
- Repeat dose studies
- Pharmacokinetic studies
- Consulting services



About the role

SAHMRI is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Director to oversee the efficient and high-calibre delivery of innovative research initiatives at our renowned Preclinical Imaging Research Laboratory (PIRL).

Reporting directly to the SAHMRI Executive Director, you will collaborate closely with various internal teams, including PIRL Management and operational teams, Bioresources, other sectional leaders and relevant department heads within SAHMRI. You will also have significant interactions with external stakeholders, such as commercial clients, researchers, regulators, and suppliers, both locally and internationally.

Key responsibilities for this role encompass strategic leadership to advance the facility's objectives, ensuring the financial sustainability of PIRL in collaboration with SAHMRI management, maintaining compliance with legislative and regulatory mandates, providing expert scientific and veterinary clinical support, conducting critical client negotiations and offering scientific and regulatory guidance to clients. Additionally, you will serve as a node director within the Federally funded National Imaging Facility network.

This Director position involves efficient management, financial stewardship, fostering scientific collaborations and safeguarding the welfare of research animals. You will also be a trusted advisor, providing professional guidance to scientific and technical staff, promoting a culture of excellence and steering efforts to meet performance expectations.

Your leadership will extend to compliance with ethical guidelines and regulations, representation of the organisation at various levels and contributing to special projects aimed at continuous improvement. Ensuring a safe work environment for employees and upholding SAHMRI's core values and code of conduct are also essential aspects of this role.

This role comes with specific requirements, including occasional out-of-hours work, travel within and between states, physical handling of animals, Q Fever vaccination, pre-employment medical examinations and obtaining a valid police clearance.

The ideal candidate should possess a degree in Veterinary Science, registration with the SA Veterinary Surgeons board, a Ph.D. or equivalent in a relevant scientific field and formal post-graduate management training. Additionally, a strong background in leadership, research, financial resource management and a deep understanding of animal research principles and laboratory animal science are essential. Exceptional communication and negotiation skills, results-oriented thinking and the ability to manage change and resolve conflicts are critical for success in this role.

For a copy of the position description, please [click here](#).

If you are a visionary leader with a passion for cutting-edge research and a commitment to excellence, we invite you to apply today!



Benefits of working with SAHMRI

At SAHMRI, we take pride in fostering an environment where talented professionals can thrive and make a real difference. Join our team and unlock a world of opportunities, rewards and support that extends far beyond your career. Here are some of the exceptional benefits you can expect as a valued member of the SAHMRI community:

1. **Cutting-Edge Research:** Be at the forefront of medical and health research, contributing to groundbreaking discoveries that can change lives.
2. **Top-Notch Facilities:** Work in state-of-the-art facilities that provide the tools and technology needed for innovative research.
3. **Work-Life Balance:** SAHMRI understands the importance of work-life balance, offering flexible work arrangements and support for personal well-being.
4. **Competitive Compensation:** Enjoy a competitive salary and benefits package that recognizes your contributions and expertise. Salary packaging with significant tax benefits is also included.
5. **Health and Well-Being:** Take advantage of comprehensive health and wellness programs, including gym access, mental health support and preventive care.
6. **Diverse and Inclusive Culture:** SAHMRI promotes diversity and inclusion, ensuring an open, welcoming and respectful workplace for all.

7. **Collaboration and Networking:** Engage in cross-disciplinary collaboration, attend international conferences and build your professional network.

8. **Work with Purpose:** Every day, you'll be part of a mission-driven organisation dedicated to improving the health and well-being of people around the world.

9. **Relocation Assistance Packages:** Comprehensive relocation assistance packages available for qualified candidates joining our team, ensuring a smooth transition to our company.

10. **Leave Benefits:** We offer a comprehensive array of leave benefits, including options for purchasing additional leave, paid parental leave and cultural leave, empowering our employees to manage their personal and professional commitments with flexibility and support.

For further information on SAHMRI's staff benefits visit: <https://sahmri.org.au/careers-and-study/working-at-sahmri>

How to apply

Please [click here](#) to apply.

For more detailed information and inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact our dedicated careers team at careers@sahmri.com.



ABN: 54 141 228 346

SAHMRI North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000

P +61 (0)8 8128 4000 **E** reception@sahmri.com

PO Box 11060, Adelaide SA 5001

sahmri.org.au

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f www.facebook.com/sahmri

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