

Policy Research Officer

Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities

Commencing: Immediately

Ending: April 13, 2023

Remuneration: \$43 per hour plus 25% casual loading and 10.5% super

Who are we?

DASSH represents more than 250 deans, and associate and deputy deans, from 43 universities across Australia and New Zealand, leading schools and faculties that teach tens of thousands of students and several thousand scholars in the humanities, arts and social sciences disciplines. We publicly advocate for change in the higher education sector that will benefit students, teachers, university administrators and more broadly Australian society.

You can see our website [here](#).

The project:

The Federal Government is hitting the reset button on higher education in Australia. It has convened an Advisory Panel chaired by Professor Mary O’Kane to oversee a Universities Accord, the first of its kind in more than a decade.

The Panel is looking for big picture ideas that will have a bearing on the university sector not just now, but 30 years from now. They want to know:

- What kind of higher education system does Australia need in two- and three-decades’ time?
- What actions and solutions are needed now, to address the major changes underway in our society, economy and environment?
- How can we ensure all Australians have the opportunity to participate in higher education?

DASSH is engaging in extensive member consultation that will form the basis for a major policy submission. The submission is due on April 11. You can read the discussion paper [here](#).

The role:

Commencing immediately, we are looking for a policy research officer who can assist the Executive Director and DASSH Universities Accord Working Group comprised of Executive Deans from around Australia by doing research and data analysis in the field of higher education.

You will have the opportunity to work closely with the Executive Director and Working Group as well as participating in consultation with members and conducting a member survey. Through the process DASSH will collaborate with the Australian Academy of Humanities and the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia as well as other peak bodies and government bodies and you will have the opportunity to forge new relationships, expand your networks and extend your knowledge.

Tasks will include:

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Promoting the
Arts, Social Sciences
and Humanities

- Engaging with Members to assess their policy priorities including conducting a survey
- Sourcing and summarising a broad range of research materials
- Researching existing policy and institutional settings in other countries
- Preparing high level briefing documents for the Executive Director and Working Group
- Providing an overview of current policy settings in key areas domestically
- Involvement in preparation of the submission
- Some data analysis

You do not need to be a subject matter expert however experience with higher education policy will be an advantage.

You will work up to a maximum of 50 hours on the project with a minimum of 7 hours per week ending on April 13. This is a work from home position and you will be required to use your own equipment. The DASSH office is located in Canberra and you will be welcome to work from there if convenient. We are a flexible employer and where convenient you can choose when you work your hours. You may be required to attend some meetings during business hours.

About you:

The successful applicant will need to have an interest in and understanding of policy development processes and a capacity to contribute to a concise and well researched policy submission.

This role will suit an aspiring policy researcher interested in working closely with Australia's university leaders. A track record of success in providing evidence-based policy advice is desirable, as is a broad understanding of public policy and current issues in research policy, higher education and the humanities, arts and social sciences. A tertiary-level qualification in a public policy related discipline and experience in qualitative and quantitative research skills would be an advantage. Skills in data analysis will be highly regarded.

How to apply:

Please send the following to office@dassh.edu.au.

- A **concise statement** (up to one page) that tells us a bit about you, including details of your research background and any specialised knowledge that might help you in the role.
- A maximum three-page **resume** with your relevant recent experience, qualifications and achievements, and the details of two referees.

Applications close COB Friday 10 March.