

AITHM Membership

The Australian Institute of Tropical Health & Medicine (AITHM) is a flagship research institute of James Cook University, and is Australia's only dedicated tropical health and medicine research institute. Based in the tropics of northern Australia, AITHM's research focusses on solving problems of importance to the tropics leading to improvements in health systems and healthcare delivery, enhanced health outcomes for Australia and for our neighbouring tropical nations, and improved biosecurity¹.

AITHM supports and promotes the research activity of JCU's Division of Tropical Health & Medicine (DTHM) and welcomes individuals with an involvement or interest in tropical health and clinical research as members or associate members of the Institute. A strong membership base will underpin AITHM's ability to continue to deliver innovative strategies and solutions to improve the health of people in the tropics worldwide.

Eligibility for AITHM Membership and Associate Membership:

Members and Associate Members must be able to demonstrate an alignment between their research activity and interests and the research focus of AITHM.

Members include:

- I. JCU staff (academic levels C or above or equivalent²) who research in the area of tropical health and medicine and who meet the Institute's 'research active' criteria³.
- II. Health professionals who hold an academic title such as an adjunct appointment with JCU and are engaged in, or who plan to become engaged in, health research with AITHM and who meet the Institute's 'research active' criteria².
- III. JCU early-career research staff (academic levels A and B or equivalent¹), and students enrolled in a JCU higher degree by research or honours degree in the area of tropical health and medicine.
- IV. Individuals who AITHM identifies as having made an outstanding contribution to the development of tropical health and medicine research and/or to AITHM.

Individuals who meet the eligibility criteria for AITHM membership and who have a strong record of achievement in tropical health and medical research at a national and/or international level may be

¹ All references throughout this document to AITHM's focus on "health" should be read as including work in the area of One Health – the worldwide strategy for expanding interdisciplinary collaborations and communications in all aspects of health care for humans, animals and the environment. <http://www.onehealthinitiative.com/about.php>

² Academic levels include:

Level	Teaching & Research/ Research	Research Fellow	Research Officer
A	Associate Lecturer	Postdoctoral Research Fellow	Research Officer
B	Lecturer	Research Fellow	Senior Research Officer
C	Senior Lecturer	Senior Research Fellow	Principal Research Officer
D	Associate Professor	Principal Research Fellow	Senior Principal Research Officer
E	Professor	Professorial Research Fellow	Chief Research Officer

³ AITHM's 'research active' criteria include:

- Recipient of research funding (individually or as a part of a research team) over the previous 5 year period; and/or
- Named as an author on at least five ERA-eligible publications, over the previous 5 year period.

Review of member's research active status will be undertaken periodically to inform eligibility for membership renewal.

invited to, or can apply for, the title of “**AITHM Research Leader**”. Refer to Appendix 1 for details regarding eligibility and responsibilities.

Associate Members include:

- I. Academic staff of collaborating institutions who meet the Institute’s ‘research active’ criteria²;
- II. Staff at hospital and health services who do not hold an academic title with JCU and who are actively engaged in tropical health and medicine research;
- III. Individuals involved with industry and/or commercialisation collaborations with AITHM.

Application for Membership and Associate Membership:

To apply, please complete the online application form for [AITHM Membership](#).

Membership will normally be offered for a period of 5 years. Upon expiry of a term of membership, members who wish to continue their association with the Institute will be encouraged to re-apply for a further 5 year term.

Benefits for Members

AITHM Members and Associate Members may:

- I. Use their status as a member of the Institute in forums and correspondence in addition to their substantive position title;
- II. Benefit from association with AITHM’s reputation, strong international and national links, and advocacy with government, funding bodies and philanthropic groups;
- III. Receive regular member information and updates including information about research grant opportunities;
- IV. Have their name displayed on the AITHM website and a link (where applicable) to a site on which they display their research profile⁴;
- V. Have the opportunity to promote their research achievements through AITHM communications channels (including newsletters, media releases, and on-line and social media) to both external and internal (JCU) audiences;
- VI. Participate in AITHM seminars, networking opportunities, training and professional development events;

AITHM Members may:

- I. Access AITHM peer review processes aimed at providing review and support for members preparing research grant submissions to be submitted through JCU;
- II. Access AITHM resources (e.g., equipment, infrastructure, expertise) for collaborative projects with AITHM⁵;

⁴ This does not apply to research students including HDR candidates due to University privacy requirements.

⁵ Subject to availability, any appropriately-qualified and inducted JCU staff member or student may access AITHM-run facilities including laboratories. Access to certain facilities or resources (e.g., specialist laboratories or specialist equipment) is limited and costs may apply to users. Where demand for access exceeds capacity, AITHM will make a determination on which users should have priority access.

- III. Apply for AITHM awards, research grants and scholarships when these are made available. Note - Applications for AITHM funding schemes (grants, scholarships) will be restricted to AITHM **Members** (i.e., AITHM Associate Members will not be eligible to apply unless an AITHM Member is included as Principal Investigator on the application).

Responsibilities of AITHM Members and Associate Members

AITHM Members and Associate Members are expected⁶ to:

- I. Actively engage in, and positively contribute to, the life and success and sustainability of the Institute;
- II. Actively participate in tropical health and medical research including:
 - a) Conduct high quality research in line with the mission of AITHM and the Strategic Intent of JCU;
 - b) Support the translation of research into policy and practice, to deliver positive impact for the health system and health consumers;
 - c) Publish research findings in quality peer-reviewed journals;
 - d) Supervise JCU Cohort PhD candidates, subject to meeting the JCU requirements for PhD supervision;
 - e) Apply for external competitive and/or industry research funding;
 - f) Initiate or contribute to collaborative research projects with other colleagues from JCU and support peer review processes;
- III. Administer research grants through JCU where appropriate;
- IV. Recognise AITHM⁷ in the bylines of all publications resulting from work involving AITHM personnel, resources, or infrastructure;
- V. Positively represent and promote AITHM and JCU in external media or promotional activities where appropriate, including wherever possible incorporating the JCU logo;
- VI. Act in the best interests of AITHM and JCU, and comply with legislation and any other provisions that affect the University, including University Acts, Statutes, Rules, Orders and the [Code of Conduct](#);
- VII. Conduct their activities in line with [Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research](#), and in accordance with the JCU Code of Conduct and other applicable JCU policies.
- VIII. Notify AITHM of any changes to their work or research arrangements that may impact their ability to continue to meet the Institute's eligibility for membership and/or member responsibilities.

⁶ JCU reserves the right to withdraw membership in the event that a member fails to uphold the responsibilities of membership.

⁷ Where Members/Associate Members of AITHM also belong to another external organisation or another organisational unit of JCU, it is expected that they will co-attribute their other organisations/JCU organisational units in addition to AITHM in the bylines of publications.

APPENDIX 1

Research Leaders

AITHM Research Leaders are academics and health professionals who hold a leadership role in the Institute in their field of research. Research Leaders will be academic staff (or hold an academic title) with JCU, have a strong record of achievement in tropical health and medical research including, at the national and/or international level, and will have made, and undertake to continue to make, a substantial contribution to their field of research and to AITHM.

Eligibility for appointment as a Research Leader

Individuals who meet the criteria for AITHM membership and who are key researchers⁸ may be invited to accept, or may apply for, the title of “AITHM Research Leader”.

Academics or health professionals who wish to apply to be a Research Leader of AITHM will be required to submit an expression of interest which includes:

1. **A brief (2-page maximum) curriculum vitae (CV)** which includes, where applicable, information outlining:

- 1.1 **Research Outcomes and Impact**

- i. Publications;
 - ii. Intellectual property created (e.g., evidence may include patents registered);
 - iii. Policies developed and/or practices that have been influenced by your research an assessment of the positive impact these have had on the health system;
 - iv. Any honours or awards received from research activities.

- 1.2 **Research Funding**

Research income received, including your position on the respective grant applications (e.g., CI-A; CI-B etc.).

- 1.3 **Research Training**

- i. HDR⁹ load over the past five years ('load' is counted as the full-time equivalent enrolments of all HDR candidates supervised by the applicant); specifying for each enrolment whether your role was as primary supervisor or co/secondary-supervisor.
 - ii. Higher Degree Research (HDR) completions achieved over the past five years.

- 1.4 **Demonstrated leadership in advancing their field of research.**

Any additional achievements, e.g.,:

- i. intellectual leadership (e.g., leadership in your specific research field as well as the broader discipline that you work within); and
 - ii. professional leadership at the local, regional, national and/or international level. Include leadership roles held in AITHM, within

⁸ Key researchers refer to academic or health professionals who hold a leadership role in their area of research (i.e., are Research Centre Directors of JCU health research centres and/or operate as team leaders or similar, overseeing and supporting the work of other research-active staff).

⁹ HDR includes PhD and MPhil and Honours.

JCU, in professional roles, on professional societies, and/or in the broader scientific community.

2 A brief statement (1-page maximum) outlining:

2.1 how your research aligns with the work of AITHM; and

2.2 your vision for how you intend to:

- i. develop your field of research (including supporting other researchers working in the same or related field(s)) at AITHM; and
- ii. contribute to the overall advancement of AITHM, over the next five years.

Applications for appointment to the role of Research Leaders of AITHM will be subject to approval by the AITHM Management Advisory Committee¹⁰.

Responsibilities of Research Leaders

In addition to the general responsibilities of AITHM Members, Research Leaders will be expected to:

- I. Take a leadership role in developing and championing a community of practice in their field of research interest within the Institute and the University;
- II. Seek opportunities to develop cohesion and collaboration across fields of research interest within AITHM, within JCU, and with external collaborators;
- III. Actively support the career development of early and mid-career researchers (EMCRs) within the Institute, including participating in mentorship, research supervision, professional development planning, and peer review;
- IV. Actively participate in Research Leader meetings and contribute to AITHM strategy and planning activities;
- V. Positively represent and further the interests of their field of research interest, and the broader Institute, at meetings, events and forums that they attend;
- VI. Nominate AITHM early and mid-career researchers (EMCRs) for consideration for AITHM bridging funds and other funding schemes, and contribute to decisions concerning the allocation of AITHM resources including research bridging funds and fellowship/scholarship top-up funds.

¹⁰ The AITHM Management Advisory Committee comprises the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Tropical Health & Medicine; Dean, Healthcare Sciences; Dean, Medicine & Dentistry; Dean, Public Health, Medical & Veterinary Sciences; Director, AITHM, Deputy Director, AITHM; Head of Operations, AITHM