

# Collections Projects Program 2023

## University of Melbourne

### Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum

#### Project Description

##### Exhibitions Research and Cataloguing project

#### The Project

This project offers the opportunity for you to assist the Director in researching themes and identifying potential items in the collection to be included in an upcoming exhibition to celebrate the 50th anniversary of ADOHTA Australian Dental and Oral Health Therapists Association at the [Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum](#) as well as cataloguing the ADOHTA archive recently added to the collection.

#### Background

The [Henry Forman Atkinson Dental Museum](#) contains over 2500 objects, photographs, documents and catalogues relating to the history of dentistry and dental education in Victoria. Objects in the collection date from the early 1700s and provide insight into the changes and developments within the dental profession and its striving to improve the standard of dental education, dental health and dental care within Victoria and more broadly in Australia.

#### Details

In consultation with the Director and Registrar, you will be able to catalogue a selection of collection objects from the ADOHTA archive that were recently added to the collection that have not yet been catalogued. Tasks may include: the completion of cataloguing fields for the database, the assigning of accession numbers and labelling or numbering of the object. Where appropriate you may need to rehouse objects to meet museum standards. The catalogue information will then be incorporated into the museum's database (Vernon CMS). As part of this project, you will have the opportunity to explore and research specific themes from the collection and contribute to discussions around items to include in the upcoming exhibition.

This project would suit students interested in dental/medical history and a basic understanding of collection management principles specific to the documentation of museum objects (progress towards a relevant degree and/or previous volunteer experience with an Archive, Museum or Historical Society is desirable). Knowledge of the correct procedures for the safe handling of objects is required and a methodical, prudent approach with an keen eye for detail.

*\*Please note, to work on this project you will need to be available on Tuesdays.*

#### Benefits

Opportunity to work at close hand with one of the University of Melbourne's extensive cultural collections and for professional development through experience gained in curatorial and collection management procedures and practice. This includes experience in handling museum objects as well as the creation of intellectual content. Good public exposure of the exhibition which will be seen by many high-profile visitors, students and members of the academic and general community.

#### Supervisors

Director Museums – Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences  
Registrar-Faculty Museums

