Position Description – Director, Hub for Apple Platform Innovation (HAPI)

Position Details

Position Title:	Director, Hub for Apple Platform Innovation (HAPI)
Portfolio:	STEM College
School:	School of Computing Technologies
Campus Location:	Based at the City campus but may be required to work at other campuses of the University.
Classification:	Level E
Employment Type:	3-year Fixed Term appointment (underpinned by a continuing Associate Professor/Professor appointment)
Time Fraction:	0.3 FTE

RMIT University

RMIT is a multi-sector university of technology, design and enterprise with more than 96,000 students and close to 10,000 staff globally. The University's mission is to help shape the world through research, innovation and engagement, and to create transformative experiences for students to prepare them for life and work.
https://www.rmit.edu.au/about
https://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/university/rmit-university/

Our three main campuses in Melbourne are located in the heart of the City, Brunswick and Bundoora. Other locations include Point Cook, Hamilton and Bendigo, two campuses in Vietnam (Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City) and a centre in Barcelona, Spain. RMIT is a truly global university.
https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/our-locations-and-facilities

We are also committed to redefining our relationship in working with, and supporting, Indigenous self-determination. Our goal is to achieve lasting transformation by maturing our values, culture, policy and structures in a way that embeds reconciliation in everything we do. We are changing our ways of knowing, working and being to support sustainable reconciliation and activate a relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous staff, students and community. Our three campuses in Melbourne (City, Brunswick and Bundoora campuses) are located on the unceded lands of the people of the Woi Wurrung and Boon Wurrung language groups of the eastern Kulin Nation.

Why work at RMIT University

Our people make everything at the University possible. We encourage new approaches to work and learning, stimulating change to drive positive impact. Find out more about working at RMIT University, what we stand for and why we are an Employer of Choice.
https://www.rmit.edu.au/careers

We want to attract those who will make a difference. View RMIT's impressive standings in university rankings.
https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/facts-figures/reputation-and-rankings

STEM College

The STEM College holds a leading position and expertise in the science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and health (STEM) fields. We are uniquely positioned to influence and partner with industry, as never before.

STEM College is a community of exceptional STEM researchers, teachers, inventors, designers and game-changers, supported by talented professional staff. We offer higher education programs across all STEM disciplines at the Bachelor, Master and PhD levels, and ensure our students experience an education that is work-aligned and life-changing. STEM College employs 1,000 staff who deliver onshore and offshore programs to approximately 20,000 students.

The College is renowned for its exemplary research in many STEM areas including advanced manufacturing and design; computing technologies; health innovation and translational medicine; nano materials and devices; and sustainable systems. Our brilliant researchers attract funding from government and industry sources.

Industry is at the heart of what we do. It ensures our research has real world impact, and our students are truly work-ready. Under the leadership of DVC STEM College, we have established new hubs of industry-connected digital innovation and are engaging with global STEM organisations at scale.

Our diversity and shared values empower our work, and we are proud of the College's inclusive, caring culture. We offer a safe, dynamic work environment, and support every member of our community of achieve their potential. The College appointed Victoria's first ever Dean of STEM, Diversity & Inclusion in 2020, and this role drives gender equity, diversity and inclusion strategies across the College.

We are here to positively impact the world and create the next generation of STEM leaders. https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/schools-colleges/stem-college

School of Computing Technologies

The School of Computing Technologies (SCT) provides world class computing research and innovative information technology education. We place a significant emphasis on diversity and interdisciplinarity, and aspire to transform the future of technology through integration of varied perspectives and through our distinctive research.

In the 2024 QS University Rankings by discipline, RMIT University was ranked at 170 globally for Computer Science and Information Systems and 57 in Library and Information Management. Education programs in Computer Science, Software Engineering, Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security and Information Technology are offered in the School of Computing Technologies, one of Australia's largest and leading educational facilities in the field.

We are a national leader in industry-connected learning in computing, data science, and IT. We have recently redesigned our undergraduate programs to provide a common foundation in programming for all SCT undergraduates. Our approach is centred on an innovative Bootcamp2Studio model that makes use of immersive and challenge-based pedagogy to drive higher-level learning. We provide students with practical learning experiences that will prepare them to contribute meaningfully to our world through their work.

The School is led by the Dean, School of Computing Technologies, and has three disciplines:
- Cyber Security & Software Systems (CSSS)
- Data Science & Artificial Intelligence (DSAI)
- Interaction, Technology & Information (ITI)

Our PhD students and faculty conduct world leading research in many areas of Computing and Computing applications, including in:

- Information Interaction and Information Retrieval
- Human-Computer Interaction
- Artificial Intelligence and Natural Language Processing
- Data Science and Machine Learning
- Recommendation and Big Data Analysis
- Cybersecurity
- Software Engineering
- Digital Health
- Computer Science Education

For more information about our School, its discipline structure and teaching and research focus areas please visit our website.

Position Summary

The Director of the Hub for Apple Platform Innovation (HAPI) will be responsible for spearheading activities focused on strengthening RMIT's collaboration with Apple, fostering an environment where students can engage in specialised education that centres on designing and developing solutions for the Apple platform. The Director will lead the development of courses that are co-designed in close partnership with Apple professionals, ensuring an enhanced student experience by aligning academic offerings with industry-relevant standards and practices.

The Director will oversee the creation of innovative learning opportunities that integrate students from diverse disciplinary backgrounds into comprehensive learning experiences. These experiences will span user interface and user experience design, along with essential technical knowledge related to building digital solutions within the Apple ecosystem. This will be facilitated through studio-based and project-based learning, focusing on design, coding, and human-centered technology development. Learning opportunities will be designed to address real-world needs derived from industry partners, with an emphasis on developing human-centric technology solutions. These educational initiatives will align with the broader strategy of the School of Computing Technologies, creating clear pathways for Apple-related education at RMIT University.

The role will also involve growing opportunities for research that relates to or builds on the Apple platform, such as enabling research translation through development of applications, or doing research on innovative use of the platform itself.

The role requires a dynamic and visionary leader who can deepen the university's relationship with Apple, driving collaborations and educational innovation that equip students with the practical skills needed to thrive in their careers. This includes fostering entrepreneurial thinking and promoting innovation. The Director will also be tasked with implementing strategic plans to ensure long-term sustainability, securing funding, and building a diverse team.

The Director will play a critical role in building strong collaborations across the School, College, and University, working to deepen the institutional relationship with Apple and ensuring the integration of Apple technologies across the educational spectrum.

This role is one of several leadership positions within the College, each guiding focused "Hubs" built around the university's research strengths. The fundamental aim of these Hubs is to integrate student learning with key industry partners, in this case, Apple. Initially, students from STEM and other disciplines will be able to study Minors at the undergraduate level within each Hub, with future opportunities to extend these programs into postgraduate studies.

The goal of the Apple Hub is to enhance student experiences by facilitating meaningful interactions with Apple and its partners. This will empower students to leverage the powerful technologies of the Apple ecosystem to innovate responsibly to solve real-world problems. Through these efforts, students will be prepared to make an immediate impact in the industry.

Reporting Line

Reports to: Dean, School of Computing Technologies
Direct reports: < 5

Organisational Accountabilities

RMIT University is committed to the health, safety and wellbeing of its staff. RMIT and its staff must comply with a range of statutory requirements, including equal opportunity, occupational health and safety, privacy and trade practice. RMIT also expects staff to comply with its policy and procedures, which relate to statutory requirements and our ways of working.

Appointees are accountable for completing training on these matters and ensuring their knowledge, and the knowledge of their staff, is up to date.

Key Accountabilities

- Drive high level strategic leadership of the Hub, setting priorities and managing the three-year plan and monitoring progress on the plan and overall performance.
- Provide thought leadership on education direction and practices related to Apple's ecosystem, including app development, design frameworks, and developer tools. Be across latest design and development trends and best practices to provide up-to-date and relevant curriculum in Apple education.
- Establish and maintain industry, government and professional links to identify and develop partnerships, ensuring relevance and growth of the Hub.
- Establish and maintain HAPI as a connection between education and industry components, offering students the opportunity to develop expertise in design and development of solutions for the Apple ecosystem that draw

on or apply to their primary discipline.

- Maintain a strong understanding in design, coding, or app development with significant experience in Apple technologies, undertaking relevant development projects and activities for solutions in the Apple ecosystem as directed by the Dean, School of Computing Technologies.

- Support the creation of engaging projects for the Apple platform suitable for learners with varied backgrounds and at different levels.

- Mentor Hub members and developers in the teaching and project development activities.

- Provide a shared vision for excellence in learning and teaching through active participation in key committees and forums.

- Establish opportunities for research and research translation that build on Apple platform technologies.

- Develop a positive and collaborative culture that embraces change and innovation and act as a credible role model to positively influence School culture. Provide authentic and constructive feedback and build trust and interdisciplinary connections across the School, College, and University.

- Be accountable for your own actions and workload to positively influence the team culture and consistently demonstrate RMIT's values.

- Build effective relationships with internal and external stakeholders through trust and open communication and manage concerns in an authentic and customer-focused manner.

Key Selection Criteria

1. Established academic career relevant to the activities of HAPI at Level D/E.

2. A clear, visionary approach to leading education initiatives that bridge academia and industry.

3. Demonstrated strengths in creating effective learning environments for a diverse range of students, including through project-based learning.

4. Significant professional standing/leadership experience in Apple design and/or development education.

5. Proven ability to foster relationships with industry partners, particularly with large technology companies like Apple leading to impact.

6. Excellent interpersonal communication, teamwork and organizational skills as well as demonstrated capacity to work collaboratively and collegially to manage complex projects and engage multiple stakeholders.

7. Experience with leading and managing teams, effectively coordinating the integration of resources, processes, systems, people and policies.

8. Capacity to influence positive change within a complex organisational setting.

9. Extensive experience in supervising students and staff to deliver outcomes.

10. Demonstrated experience in planning, implementing and reviewing strategic initiatives.

Qualifications

Relevant postgraduate qualification and relevant industry experience, with membership of associations/accreditations that are applicable to the role. Maintaining a valid Working with Children Check is condition of employment at RMIT University.