



## Position Description – Research Fellow (Qualitative)

### Position Details

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<b>Position Title:</b>	Research Fellow (Qualitative)
<b>Position Number:</b>	NEW
<b>College/Portfolio:</b>	STEM College
<b>School/Group:</b>	School of Health and Biomedical Sciences / Eat, Move, Heal Enabling Impact Network
<b>Campus Location:</b>	Based at Bundoora or City campus but may be required to work and/or be based at other campuses of the University.
<b>Classification:</b>	Academic Level B1
<b>Employment Type:</b>	Fixed Term (Research) – 3 years, until June 2027
<b>Time Fraction (s):</b>	1.0 FTE

### About the role:

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The Research Fellow will be based in the School of Health and Biomedical Sciences, in collaboration with the Eat, Move, Heal Network, to work on the MRFF-funded project, **‘Emerging from the long shadow: Optimising supportive consumer and provider journeys through the post-acute sequelae of COVID-19 (PASC)’**.

This role involves the use of qualitative co-design methodologies to engage with people experiencing long-COVID (or post-acute sequelae of COVID-19; PASC) and their health providers across medical services and allied health. The broad aim of this research project is to drive effective, inclusive models of care for those living with PASC.

The Research Fellow will undertake research activities in line with the objectives of the funded project and the University’s research strategy. This may include the following tasks:

- Independently producing project information statements, research materials, and project reports;
- Leading the development of ethics applications;
- Conducting a series of focus groups, in-depth interviews, as well as other qualitative data collection approaches (e.g., creative and community-led methodologies);
- Processing and analysing qualitative data;
- Co-ordinating participant recruitment and management;
- Organising stakeholder engagement meetings, project events and other activities;
- Leading the preparation of academic publications; and
- Executing project administration tasks accurately and in a timely manner, including record-keeping, report and grant writing, and budget/finance management.

The Research Fellow will embed their research expertise into the life of the school through the development of high-quality, productivity-driven research networks across RMIT and with local and international, internal, and external partners.

### **Reporting Line**

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Reports to: Dr Natalie Jovanovski

### **RMIT University**

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RMIT is a multi-sector university of technology, design and enterprise. 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. For more information on RMIT University follow the links below.

<https://www.rmit.edu.au/about>

<https://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/university/rmit-university/>

<https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/facts-figures>

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.

### **STEM College**

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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.

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 & Vice President, Digital Innovation, we have established new hubs of industry-connected digital innovation and endeavour 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 to 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.

STEM College employs 1,000 staff who deliver onshore and offshore programs to approximately 20,000 students.

**We are here to positively impact the world and create the next generation of STEM leaders.**

[www.rmit.edu.au/seh](http://www.rmit.edu.au/seh)

## School of Health and Biomedical Sciences

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The School of Health and Biomedical Sciences comprises three Academic Clusters (Allied Health, Applied Health, and Biomedical Sciences). Primarily based at the RMIT Bundoora campus, we undertake teaching and research across ten disciplines: Chinese Medicine, Chiropractic, Exercise Science, Human Biosciences, Laboratory Medicine, Medical Radiations, Nursing, Osteopathy, Pharmacy and Psychology. Many of our programs include Work Integrated Learning as an intrinsic part of student learning, both through placements in partner industries and through the University's student led Health Sciences Clinic located at Bundoora.

We have a strategic focus on chronic disease and integrative health care with cross-cutting themes of: Indigenous Health, Exercise & Nutrition, Ageing in Health & Disease, and Medical Devices, Diagnostics and Prognostics. The School is internationally and nationally competitive in the clinical and biomedical sciences. Research within the School is supported by modern facilities and state-of-the-art equipment.

### Details of the School can be found at:

<https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/our-education/academic-schools/health-and-biomedical-sciences>

## The Eat, Move, Heal Network

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The Research Assistant would be joining the *Eat, Move, Heal Network (EMHN)*, an Enabling Impact Network located in the School of Health and Biomedical Sciences at RMIT. EMHN leads pioneering research in Long-COVID and provides up-to-date information about this complex health condition to healthcare practitioners and the general public.

EMHN brings together researchers, educators and healthcare practitioners from over 10 disciplines, as well as industry partners and community members. *Eat, Move, Heal* refers to evidence-based lifestyle interventions for Long-COVID, including diet and nutrition, physical activity, and mental health modulation. Specific areas of research interest include:

- Lived experience of people with Long-COVID, including those from diverse and hard-to-reach communities,
- Factors contributing to Long-COVID experiences,
- Creative care pathways to facilitate the recovery from COVID-19 and Long-COVID,
- Innovative and easily implementable lifestyle solutions tailored to individuals and modes of deployment, and
- Biological markers that enable an accurate diagnosis and the evaluation of interventions.

For more information about the EMHN, please visit our webpage: [Eat, Move, Heal Network \(EMHN\) - RMIT University](#)

## MRFF Long-COVID Project

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The \$4.9 million MRFF Post-Acute Sequelae of COVID-19 project will bring together multidisciplinary expertise from clinicians and medical researchers (infectious diseases, immunology, general practise, emergency) with expert researchers across the social sciences, community engagement, economics, education and digital innovation. Both national and international partners across Australia and the UK will be involved.

Through extensive consultation with consumers, health providers and PASC researchers, this project will deliver an effective, inclusive model of care for those living with PASC. It will achieve this by (1) developing a meaningful understanding of PASC and its impacts for Australia's diverse population; (2) producing a toolkit consisting of validated and reliable measures for assessment, monitoring the impact, and costing the delivery of PASC care in Australia; (3) informing a transdisciplinary, consumer-led model of PASC care; and (4) supporting a coordinated approach to Australian PASC research.

## Organisational Accountabilities

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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.

RMIT is committed to providing a safe environment for children and young people in our community. Read about our commitment and child safe practices. <https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/our-locations-and-facilities/facilities/safety-security/child-safety>

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

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1. Conduct high quality research individually and as part of a team, with key accountabilities including:
  - a) managing research projects within timelines and budget, ensuring compliance with quality and reporting requirements;
  - b) independently undertaking qualitative study design, data collection, analysis, and knowledge translation activities within the scope of the funded project;
  - c) publishing research results in high quality outlets as both lead and co-author;
  - d) preparing and submitting external research funding applications; and
  - e) supervising higher degree by research candidates, including Honours and Masters students.
  - f) Liaising with internal and external stakeholders for project review and strategic planning across the MRFF program, in addition to attending and reporting at project meetings.
  
2. Actively contribute to the development and research strategy within the research team, ensuring it aligns to University strategy.

### Key Selection Criteria

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1. Background in health promotion, public health, health social science, allied health, or related disciplines.
2. Emerging track record and recognition for quality research outputs as evidenced by publications, development of new research initiatives, research funding, and existing relationships with industry or community networks.
3. Demonstrated experience conducting qualitative research, including data collection (e.g., focus groups and in-depth interviews) and analysis. Experience in community-partnered research methods (e.g., co-design, participatory methods) is highly desirable.
4. Demonstrated ability to work autonomously, whilst displaying a strong commitment to work in a team environment. This includes being able to work with colleagues, project team leaders, and industry partners confidently and effectively.
5. Ability to build effective networks and work collaboratively with colleagues and through effective liaison with consumer groups, industry and government.
6. Excellent interpersonal and communications skills appropriate for interacting with academic staff, consumer groups and industry, together with a strong commitment to teamwork and multidisciplinary collaboration.
7. Demonstrated capabilities in research supervision, personnel management, and/or meeting.

### Qualifications

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**Mandatory:** PhD or equivalent in the health social sciences (or relevant fields, such as health promotion, public health, and allied health, as well as other disciplines)

Note: Appointment to this position is subject to passing a Working with Children check. Maintaining a valid Working with Children Check is a condition of employment at RMIT.

<b>Endorsed:</b>	Signature: Name: Title: Date:	<b>Approved:</b>	Signature: Name: Title: Date:
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