



Position Description – Research Fellow

Position Details

Position Title:	Research Fellow
College/Portfolio:	STEM College
School/Group:	School of Computing Technologies
Campus Location:	Based at City campus but may be required to work and/or be based at other campuses of the University.
Classification:	Academic Level A/B
Employment Type:	Fixed Term (Research)
Time Fraction:	1.0

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.

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

School of Computing Technologies

The School of Computing Technologies (SCT) is a centre for digital innovation, world class research, and education in STEM via streamlined collaboration across relevant disciplines. In the 2020 QS University Rankings by discipline, RMIT University was ranked top-150 globally for Computer Science and Information Systems. Computer Science, Software Engineering, Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security and Information Technology programs are offered in the School of Computing Technologies, one of Australia's largest and leading educational facilities in the field. RMIT University prides itself on the quality of its graduates, achieved through programs that have a strong emphasis on both theory and practice, and seeks to make a significant contribution to computing and IT education and research.

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:

- Search and Recommendation
- Human-Computer Interaction
- Artificial Intelligence and Natural Language Processing
- Data Science, Machine Learning, and Big Data Analysis
- Cybersecurity
- Distributed Computing
- Software Engineering
- Digital Health

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.

SCT will further fast-track digital innovation across all College teaching programs and elevate our external position as a leader in technology and digital innovation. The School's leadership is tasked with the significant responsibility of building the architecture and capability to position RMIT with research computing capacity and a world class digital learning lab which will support interdisciplinary activities, including integration of augmented reality and other advanced technologies into teaching.

The strong focus on technology led by the School of Computing Technologies will drive the development of new capability platforms and enable the ability for RMIT to be embedded within industry and leading local and international research organisations.

Position Summary

The Research Fellow will work within RMIT intelligent Automation group, on a project funded by Food Agility CRC and Kilcoy Global Foods, a leading global food manufacturer. This project aims to develop cutting-edge digital twins and AI assistants, significantly enhancing manufacturing and operational efficiencies in the food manufacturing sector.

In this role, you will conduct independent and collaborative research that has a substantial impact on the fields of artificial intelligence, data science, and engineering. You will be expected to plan, develop, and conduct high-quality research aligned with the project goals. Additionally, you will engage with various stakeholders, including funding organizations, industry partners, and RMIT research and administrative staff, to ensure the successful delivery of project outcomes. The role also involves on-site work at meat processing plants and occasional travel to industry partner meat manufacturing facilities in Victoria and Queensland, and therefore necessitates the person to be inoculated for Q-fever. This position offers an exciting opportunity to contribute to significant advancements in food manufacturing technology while working with a dynamic team and industry leaders.

Reporting Line

Reports to: Dr Ruwan Tennakoon

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

1. Conduct high quality research individually or as part of a team including: managing research projects within timelines and budget and ensuring compliance with quality and reporting requirements; publishing research results in high quality outlets as lead or co-author; preparing and submitting external research funding applications; and supervising higher degree by research candidates.
2. Actively contribute to the development of research strategy within the research team, ensuring it aligns to University strategy.
3. Undertake 10% teaching and learning program appropriate to areas of expertise.

Key Selection Criteria

1. Demonstrated experience in developing AI systems to address real-world challenges within the fields of data science, computer science, or engineering.
2. Expertise in at least one of the following areas: managing big data, developing digital twins, applying large language or vision foundation models, or creating AI agent systems.
3. Emerging track record and recognition for quality research outputs which will contribute to existing Discipline and School research areas evidenced by publications, development of new research initiatives, competitive research funding, and industry links.
4. Ability to build effective networks with colleagues and generate alternative funding projects through effective liaison with industry and government.
5. Excellent interpersonal and communications skills appropriate for interacting with higher degree by research candidates, staff and industry, together with a strong commitment to teamwork and multidisciplinary collaboration.

Qualifications

Mandatory: PhD or equivalent¹ in relevant field.

Note: Appointment to this position is subject to passing a Working with Children Check and other checks as required by the specific role. Maintaining a valid Working With Children Check is a condition of employment at RMIT.

¹ Equivalence is defined in the exemption criteria at **Appointment of staff without Doctoral qualifications** instruction