

Position Description - Research Assistant

Position Details

Position Title: Research Assistant

Position Number: NEW

College/Portfolio: STEM College

School/Group: School of Health and Biomedical Sciences / Eat, Move, Heal Enabling Impact Network

Campus Location: Based at City or Bundoora campus; may be required to work at other campuses of the

University.

Classification: Academic Level A

Employment Type: Fixed Term (Research) (18 months with possibility of extension).

Time Fraction: 0.4 - 0.6 FTE (negotiable).

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/universitv/rmit-universitv/

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

The Eat, Move, Heal Network

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.

RMIT Classification: Trusted

For more information about the EMHN, please visit our webpage: <u>Eat, Move, Heal Network (EMHN) - RMIT</u> University

MRFF Long-COVID Project

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.

Position Summary

The successful candidate will be based in the School of Health and Biomedical Sciences, in collaboration with the EMHN, and will support a multidisciplinary team of researchers on a project titled: Emerging from the long shadow: Optimising supportive consumer and provider journeys through the post-acute sequelae of COVID-19 (PASC). The project is funded under the following grant scheme: 2023 MRFF Post-Acute Sequalae of COVID-19 (Stream 1).

The Research Assistant will undertake research/scholarly activities under limited supervision either independently or as a member of a team in lien with the project deliverables. including:

It is expected that the role will work with an increasing degree of autonomy as skills and experience develop.

Reporting Line

Reports to: Prof. Catherine Itsiopoulos, Dean (School of Health and Biomedical Sciences)

Dotted line to relevant project lead.

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 research/scholarly activities under limited supervision either independently or as a member of a team including:
 - a) Supporting study investigators to build surveys, write information statements and project materials, and complete ethics applications and revisions;
 - b) Contribute to external research funding submissions

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- Support study investigators in recruitment of participants and participants coordination (where relevant)
- d) Conduct surveys, focus groups and/or interviews;
- e) Transcribe, process, and analyse quantitative and/or qualitative data (with supervision);
- f) Organise stakeholder engagement meetings and activities;
- g) Assist in the preparation of academic publications and other research outputs at conferences and research forums; and
- h) Project administration, including notetaking, record keeping, and report writing.
- 2. Undertake administration related to the position.

Key Selection Criteria

- 1. Evidence of research output including publications, conference contributions and/or technical reports in the fields of public health, health promotion, health social science, allied health, or community-based research.
- 2. Demonstrated ability to liaise effectively with industry, government, and community stakeholders, including people with lived experience of chronic illness, disability, or forms of social disadvantage.
- 3. 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.
- 4. Demonstrated ability to meet deadlines, effectively manage varying workloads, and respond to changing priorities as required.
- Demonstrated high level written and verbal communication skills, including the production of appropriate information formats for diverse community and professional stakeholder groups.

This project involves working with diverse community groups. Experience in working with people with complex/chronic health conditions, disability, or other diversities is highly desired. Lived experience with complex/chronic health conditions or disability, personal experience as a caregiver/supporter, is also highly desired. Candidates who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, LGBTIQ+, or gender diverse, and those from culturally or linguistically diverse backgrounds, are also strongly encouraged to apply.

Qualifications

Mandatory: The successful candidate will have a qualification in the relevant discipline area (public health, health promotion, allied health, or health social science) and have either:

- Completed or commenced a Research Doctorate or Masters-by-Research degree, OR
- Undertaken research in a relevant industry setting.

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.

Endorsed:	Signature:	Approved:	Signature:
	Name:		Name:
	Title:		Title:
	Date:		Date: