



Position Description – Research Fellow (Quantitative)

Position Details

Position Title:	Research Fellow (Quantitative)
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 Bundoora or City campus, but may be required to work and/or be based at other campuses of the University.
Classification:	Academic Level A6-B1
Employment Type:	Fixed Term (Research) – 3 years
Time Fraction (s):	0.4- 0.8 FTE

About the role:

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 utilising quantitative methodologies to conduct two national, longitudinal, large-population surveys. The aim is to establish a set of valid, usable, and inclusive tools for measuring the impact of post-acute sequelae of COVID-19 (PASC). Additionally, the role will explore the symptom and function profiles of individuals experiencing long-COVID (or PASC) and examine the relationship between function, self-efficacy, and social support in Australia. 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;
- Assisting the development of ethics applications;
- Preparing online questionnaires and conducting recruitment, screening, consenting as well as other quantitative data collection approaches;
- Collecting, processing, conducting complex quantitative data analysis (digital and non-digital); and data linkage and management
- Co-ordinating participant recruitment and management;
- Organising stakeholder engagement meetings, project events and other activities;
- Assisting and 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

Reports to: Professor Zhen Zheng

Dotted line to: Professor Leila Karimi

RMIT University

RMIT is a global university of technology, design and enterprise in which teaching, research and engagement are central to achieving positive impact and creating life-changing experiences for our students.

Founded in 1887, RMIT is a multi-sector university with more than 87,000 students including 15,000 at postgraduate level and 11,000 staff globally. The University offers Postgraduate, Undergraduate, Vocational Education and Online programs to provide students with a variety of work-relevant pathways.

With three campuses and two sites in Australia, two campuses in Vietnam and a research and industry collaboration centre in Barcelona, Spain, RMIT is a truly global university. RMIT also offers programs through partners in Singapore, Hong Kong, mainland China and Indonesia, and has research and industry partnerships on every continent.

RMIT enjoys an international reputation for excellence in education and applied and innovative research, as well as industry and community engagement.

RMIT prides itself on the strong industry links it has forged over its 130-year history. Collaboration with industry is integral to the University's leadership in education and research, and to the development of highly skilled, globally focused graduates.

RMIT was ranked 250th in 2019 QS World University Rankings. The University is also ranked eighth in Australia and 30th in East Asia and the Pacific for employer reputation and 21st in the Top 50 Universities Under 50 Years Old.

In the 2018 QS Rankings by Subject, RMIT was ranked 11th in the world and number one in the Asia Pacific for Art and Design, and 26th in Architecture and the Built Environment. RMIT is also among the world's top 100 universities in Engineering (Civil and Structural; Electrical and Electronic; and Computer Science and Information Systems); Accounting and Finance; Business and Management Studies; and Communication and Media Studies. The 2018 Shanghai Ranking's Global Ranking of Academic Subjects highlighted RMIT's strength in Engineering and Technology in particular.

RMIT also ranks in the world's top 400 in the 2018 Academic Ranking of World Universities and in the world's top 500 in 2018 Times Higher Education World University Rankings.

For more information, visit rmit.edu.au/about.

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 Health and Biomedical Sciences

The School of Health and Biomedical Sciences comprises three Academic areas (Allied Health, Applied Health, and Biomedical Sciences). Primarily based at the RMIT Bundoora campus, we undertake teaching and research across eleven disciplines: Human Biosciences, Laboratory Medicine, Medical Radiations in the three streams of medical imaging nuclear medicine and radiation therapy, Nursing, Osteopathy, Chinese Medicine, Chiropractic, Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Physiotherapy and Psychology. Our programs all included embedded Work Integrated Learning as an intrinsic part of student learning, both through professional practice placements in partner health industries and through the University's student led Health Sciences Clinic located at Bundoora.

The School's research was ranked as well above world standard in clinical science, complementary and alternative medicine, medical physiology, microbiology and pharmacology & pharmaceutical sciences, and above world standard in psychology, public health & health service and medical & health sciences. We have a strategic focus on chronic disease and multidisciplinary health care with cross-cutting themes of: Respiratory Health, Neurodevelopment and Neuroinflammation, Ageing in Health & Disease, Diagnostics, Therapeutics and Translational Immunology in Cancer Care, Cardiometabolic Health, Mind and Body Rehabilitation, Digital Health and Health by Design. Research within the School is supported by modern facilities and state-of-the-art equipment as well as a significant number of national and international partners.

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

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

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

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 and as part of a team, with key accountabilities including:
 - a) managing data and research projects within timelines and budget, ensuring compliance with quality and reporting requirements;
 - b) Undertaking quantitative study design, data collection, analysis, and knowledge translation activities within the scope of the funded project as a team member;
 - c) publishing research results in high quality outlets as both lead and co-author; and
 - d) supervising higher degree by research candidates, including Honours and Masters students.
2. Actively contribute to the development and research strategy within the research team, ensuring it aligns to university strategy.

Key Selection Criteria

1. Background in psychology, public health, health science, allied health, biostatistics, epidemiology 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 quantitative research, including questionnaire development, psychometrics, survey preparation (Qualtrics), data linkage, collection, management and statistical analysis.
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

Mandatory: PhD or equivalent in Psychology, Biostatistics (or relevant fields), Epidemiology, Public Health, Health Science, Allied Health, Nursing, or other related health field.

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.

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