



Position Description – Vice-Chancellor's Indigenous Senior Research Fellow

Position Details

Position Title:	Vice-Chancellor's Indigenous Senior Research Fellow		
College/Portfolio:	Dependent on the successful applicant's research specialisation		
School/Group:	Dependent on the successful applicant's research specialisation		
Campus Location:	Primarily based at one of the Melbourne campuses (City, Brunswick or Bundoora), and the potential to work across other RMIT campuses as required.		
Classification:	Academic Level C1-C6	Time Fraction:	1.0 FTE
Employment Type:	Fixed Term – 4 years	Fixed Term Reason:	Research
Reporting Line:	A School reporting line through the Dean, or delegate, with dotted line supervision / mentoring by relevant Enabling Impact Platform (EIP) Director/s.		

RMIT University

RMIT is a global university of technology, design and enterprise, committed to creating transformative experiences for students and making a meaningful impact through research, innovation, and engagement.

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 campuses in Melbourne (City, Brunswick, Bundoora, and Point Cook) are complemented by international campuses in Vietnam and a centre in Barcelona, Spain. We proudly acknowledge the Woi Wurrung and Boon Wurrung peoples of the eastern Kulin Nation on whose unceded lands our campuses are located.

We are deeply committed to reconciliation and Indigenous self-determination, embedding these values throughout our policies, culture and structures.

<https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/our-locations-and-facilities>

Why Join RMIT?

Our people are at the heart of everything we do. At RMIT, we value innovation, collaboration and impact. Our values are the heart (durrung) of who we are and what we stand for at RMIT. They guide what we do, how we make decisions, and how we treat each other.



Inclusion



Imagination



Integrity



Courage



Passion



Impact

Learn more about our values: <https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/our-strategy/values>

Organisational Accountabilities

RMIT is committed to the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all staff and students. As a staff member, you are expected to comply with all relevant legislation and RMIT policies, including those related to: Equal opportunity, Occupational health and safety, Privacy and trade practices & Child safety standards:

Appointees are responsible for completing all required training and ensuring that they and their team members remain up to date on relevant compliance obligations.

Staff are expected to understand and support RMIT's child safe practices as part of their professional responsibilities. More about our child safety commitment: <https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/our-locations-and-facilities/facilities/safety-security/child-safety>.

Leadership at RMIT

At RMIT, leadership is not defined by position or hierarchy—it is a shared responsibility demonstrated by all staff, regardless of role or title. Leadership is grounded in our six core values, which guide and shape how we work together, make decisions, and create impact.

Effective leadership means consistently integrating these values into everyday actions and interactions, whether influencing a project outcome, supporting a colleague, or leading a team. All staff are expected to embody the principles of the *Be–Know–Do* Leadership Model:

Be– We are open and authentic, inclusive and empowering. We are purpose driven role models and communicators.

Know– We are self-aware, and understand our stakeholders, our sector and priorities.

Do– We set clear direction and expectations, we develop ourselves and others and promote mutual accountability to deliver results.

At every level, leadership at RMIT is about influence, contribution, and mindset. It is reflected in how we empower others, foster collaboration, and drive positive change through capability-building and alignment to strategic goals.

Research and Innovation Portfolio

RMIT uses its global presence, urban environment and community and industry connections to capture opportunities and ensure our research makes a difference. Our focus on application and transformation is having a positive impact on communities and the environment. Our aspiration is to make a significant contribution to knowledge in our areas of specialisation and identify and develop innovative approaches to build economic prosperity and to address problems affecting society.

RMIT has eight Enabling Impact Platforms (EIPs) which go beyond a traditional academic discipline-based view of the world. EIPs are clusters of research excellence that can be deployed to deliver significant positive economic, social, and environmental impact. It is through connecting our areas of research excellence and deploying that excellence to address others' needs that RMIT will make a substantial difference. The EIP areas are in Advanced Materials, Manufacturing and Fabrication; Biomedical and Health Innovation; Design and Creative Practice; Global Business Innovation; Information and Systems (engineering), Social Change; Urban Futures; and Sustainable Development Technologies and Systems. Find out more about EIPs at <https://www.rmit.edu.au/research/our-research/enabling-impact-platforms>

Researchers at RMIT University are based in Schools and are affiliated with our EIPs. This enables us to provide focus and support for outcome-related multi-disciplinary research, undertaken in collaboration with leading organisations and industry partners. These collaborations ensure our research outcomes make a difference.

RMIT's Research and Innovation Portfolio supports researchers to help shape the world. The portfolio has an engaged, energetic, talented, and collaborative team focused on enabling excellent research and innovation outcomes. With a global presence, community, and industry connections, we support cutting edge-research and careers that make a positive impact on communities.

The Research and Innovation Portfolio supports researchers and graduate researchers with research partnerships, grants and research contracts, funding opportunities, capability development, research training, ethics and integrity, intellectual property, commercialisation, internships, communication, and profile. Through the School of Graduate Research, the Portfolio is responsible for promoting and enhancing research education and training at RMIT to ensure the highest standard of research candidate experience is possible.

Click [here](#) to find out more about research and innovation at RMIT University and the Research and Innovation Portfolio.

The University's Three Academic Colleges

The College of Business and Law has established a reputation for excellence in business and management education, providing high quality industry responsive programs relevant to the national and global marketplace.

Click [here](#) to find out more about research in the College of Business and Law.

The College of Design & Social Context encompasses RMIT's art, communication, design, education, humanities, property, and social science discipline areas.

Click [here](#) to find out more about research in the College of Design & Social Context.

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.

Click [here](#) to find out more about research in STEM College.

Position Summary

The Vice-Chancellor's Indigenous Senior Research Fellow will be aligned with one or more of RMIT's Strategic Research Priority Areas. They will be located within a School environment but expected to work across disciplines.

The role is primarily to plan, lead, develop, and engage in high quality, transdisciplinary, externally linked and impact-focused research projects, which address local, national, regional, and global challenges in line with the University's Strategic Research Priority areas. The Fellow will be expected to deliver excellent research outcomes with a strong focus on impact and translation.

The Vice-Chancellor's Indigenous Senior Research Fellow will contribute to planning and strategy, participate in committees, networks, projects and alliances within their School, College, the University and with industry, community, government, advocacy, arts, NGO, health or other bodies external to the University, as appropriate.

The Vice-Chancellor's Indigenous Senior Research Fellow will be expected to attract external research funding including competitive grants from both national and international sources and produce high-quality outputs.

The position may undertake limited teaching duties in relevant areas.

The position is open to candidates who do not currently hold a continuing academic appointment with RMIT University

Key Accountabilities

- Lead and manage high quality research involving design and development of projects within the foci of one or more of RMIT's Strategic Research Priority Areas, with a strong focus on impact and translation, and interdisciplinary research.
- Grow RMIT's external research funding and profile by identifying, initiating, and competing for Australian competitive grants, fellowships, and Industry funding as well as client-oriented and international research income.
- Extend the research performance and reputation of the discipline through effective engagement with industry, government, and community sectors. Use these relationships to develop transdisciplinary collaborative impact focused projects with stakeholders both inside and outside RMIT and from local to global environments.
- Successfully manage research activities and milestones by ensuring progress reviews for RMIT and industry partners are completed to the required level within agreed timeframes and budget restraints.
- Regularly disseminate research outcomes and communicate with other team members, clients, and the broader research community internal and external to RMIT University.
- Help lead the development and application of plans to enhance delivery of research outcomes and performance within the School and across the University.
- Develop and build collegiality, and embrace diversity, through active interactions and participation in events, forums, workshops in the School, College, and broader research community and networks of the University.
- Undertake administrative duties as required.
- Assume joint responsibility for career development by actively participating in various activities and producing a jointly agreed development plan.
- Undertake supervision of research students and may undertake limited teaching duties.
- Be a positive advocate for research excellence, innovation and translation that supports cutting edge research and makes a positive impact on communities.

Key Selection Criteria

1. Recognised and established track record of research publications at national and international level; attracting external research funding; and conducting complex collaborative projects.
2. Demonstrated experience in identifying and building research projects to address complex challenges in the world.
3. Proven ability to build research alliances and collaborations with bodies external to the university including industry, government, NGO, community, NFP, cultural and other organisations as relevant.
4. Evidence of independent and original intellectual contribution with significant impact, critical thinking and leadership ability.
5. Demonstrated experience in conducting research in an area aligned with one or more of RMIT's Strategic Research Priority Areas including research outputs at national and international level, and/or successful research translation, working across different disciplines.
6. Demonstrated ability to build strong partnerships and research networks with industry, government or community sectors especially related to research translation and impact, including influence on policy or practice.
7. Proven ability to analyse and solve problems and to be flexible and adaptable in an ever-changing environment.
8. Demonstrated experience in leading multiple successful collaborative research projects, using a high level of interpersonal and communication skills, to deliver and connect across domains of expertise, whilst delivering against targets, timelines and budget constraints, preferably within a cross-disciplinary environment.
9. Demonstrated ability to build teams and provide leadership in research, including research training and supervision and mentorship of higher degree by research students or more junior research staff, and foster inclusive, respectful and productive working relationships between students and colleagues at all levels.
10. Demonstrated track record of values and behaviours consistent with RMIT's enterprise vision, goals

and strategic plans see <https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/our-values..>

Note: For guidance on interview questions, please contact the Talent Acquisition team.

Qualifications

Mandatory: PhD or equivalent in relevant field

Working with Children Check

Appointment to this position is subject to holding a valid Victorian 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: July 2026		Date: July 2026