Professor in Neuro-symbolic and Trustworthy AI

Position Details

Position Title: Professor in Neuro-symbolic and Trustworthy AI

College/Portfolio: College of STEM

School/Group: School of Computing Technologies

Campus Location: Based at the Melbourne City campus, but may be required to work and/or be based at other campuses of the University.

Classification: Academic Level E

Employment Type: Continuing

Time Fraction: 1.0 FTE (or fraction to be negotiated)

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

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, we have established new hubs of industry-connected digital innovation and are engaging with global STEMM 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 of 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.

We are here to positively impact the world and create the next generation of STEM leaders. https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/schools-colleges/stem-college

School of Computing Technologies

The School of Computing Technologies (SCT) provides world class computing research and innovative information technology education. We place a significant emphasis on diversity and interdisciplinarity, and aspire to transform the future of technology through integration of varied perspectives and through our distinctive research.

In the 2024 QS University Rankings by discipline, RMIT University was ranked at 170 globally for Computer Science and Information Systems and 57 in Library and Information Management. Education programs in Computer Science, Software Engineering, Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security and Information Technology are offered in the School of Computing Technologies, one of Australia's largest and leading educational facilities in the field.

We are a national leader in industry-connected learning in computing, data science, and IT. 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. We provide students with practical learning experiences that will prepare them to contribute meaningfully to our world through their work.

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:

- Information Interaction and Information Retrieval
- Human-Computer Interaction

- Artificial Intelligence and Natural Language Processing
- Data Science and Machine Learning
- Recommendation and Big Data Analysis
- Cybersecurity
- Software Engineering
- Digital Health
- Computer Science Education

For more information about our School, its discipline structure and teaching and research focus areas please visit our website.

Position Summary

The Professor is a senior academic and eminent researcher in the specialist field, contributing significantly to teaching and research outputs, building capability of staff and promoting strong academic performance. The Professor will provide high level research leadership developing and leading research project teams and programs and fostering a vibrant impact-oriented research culture. This role requires development of a high-quality and productivity-driven research network across RMIT and with external national and global partners. The ability to develop productive partnerships with government and industry to realise impact will be highly valued.

The Professor will also teach and make significant contributions to teaching and learning in the Data Science and AI Discipline and the School, with the aim of improving learning outcomes for students. You will also make a significant contribution to the planning and strategic direction of the School, taking on academic leadership roles involving participation in various committees within the School, College and University and external to the University, as appropriate.

With this appointment we are looking to support the interdisciplinary and innovation objectives of the School, including fostering collaborations across the College of STEM and with the other colleges, the College of Design and Social Context and the College of Business and Law. We are particularly interested growing our strengths in the areas of:

- Neuro-symbolic AI
- Knowledge graphs and Contextual AI
- Conversational AI
- Trustworthy and Safe AI

to complement our existing strengths and focuses of Responsible AI, Intelligent Decision Making and Multi-modal Machine Learning in the Data Science & AI Discipline. We anticipate that the Professor will also work closely with members of the Interaction, Technology & Information Discipline to explore human-AI teaming and human factors in AI adoption including FATE (fairness, accountability, transparency, ethics).

Reporting Line

Reports to: Associate Dean of the Data Science & AI Discipline
Direct reports: N/A

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.

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

1. Lead and foster excellence in teaching and research in the discipline within the University and within the community, professional, commercial or industrial sectors.
2. Having achieved distinction at national and international levels and with recognition as an eminent authority in the discipline, lead research contributions including: leading publication effort of research team/s and extending dissemination activities; identifying and attracting external research funding to sustain research growth across the University; supervising higher degree by research candidates.
3. Contribute to teaching in core areas of Computer Science, Software Engineering, Information Technology, and/or Data Science.
4. Ensure implementation of best practice teaching strategies within discipline and dissemination of innovative practices across the University, including: initiating responses to emergent issues and integrating into curriculum development; leading improvement of academic standards, program review and course evaluations within and across disciplines.
5. Provide leadership and foster excellence in policy development in the academic discipline within the University and within the community, professional, commercial or industrial sectors.
6. Lead School and College and participate in University strategy development and governance.

Key Selection Criteria

1. Demonstrate distinction at the national level and an internationally recognised research track record in the target areas of neuro-symbolic and trustworthy AI.
2. Proven ability to sustain and grow Research Groups and Centres through the attraction of external funding.
3. Extensive experience in attracting and supervising higher degree by research candidates to maximise research performance.
4. Demonstrated ability to lead improvement of academic standards, including implementing best practice teaching strategies and dissemination of innovative practices.
5. Demonstrated ability to manage award program/s and lead program reviews.
6. Evidence of demonstrated strategic leadership in a large organisational unit or University-wide initiative and effective membership of a management team that developed and achieved shared goals and objectives.
7. Demonstrated experience in financial, governance and quality management systems within a University.
8. Demonstrated high level of interpersonal, communication and negotiating skills including the ability to consult with senior executives, external bodies, produce executive reports, negotiate agreed directions, outcomes and targets within a collaborative environment.

Qualifications

Mandatory: PhD 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.

Preferred: Completion of the Essentials of Learning and Teaching (login required) or possess (or eligible to apply for) appropriate HEA fellowship (if the appointed candidate does not meet this requirement at time of appointment, they will be supported to complete this).

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