



Position Description – Research Assistant/Fellow

Position Details

Position Title:	Research Assistant or Research Fellow, Optoelectronic materials synthesis	
College/Portfolio:	STEM College	School/Group: Engineering
Campus Location:	Primarily based at City campus, and the potential to work across other RMIT campuses as required.	
Classification:	Academic Level A or B based on experience	Time Fraction: 1.0
Employment Type:	Fixed Term	
Fixed Term Reason:	Specific Task or Project	
Reporting Line:	Professor Sumeet Walia	
No. of Direct reports:	0	

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.

The 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 lifechanging.

The College is renowned for its exemplary research in many STEM areas across the Schools of Engineering, Health and Biomedical Sciences, Science, and Computing Technologies. Our research addresses issues of global importance, and concerns at local, national and international levels. Highly experienced researchers adopt a collaborative approach to identify innovative, timely and ground-breaking solutions that benefit society. With globally recognised researchers supported by state-of-the-art facilities, the College offers exceptional opportunities for postgraduate, postdoctoral researchers and academic staff. Our brilliant researchers attract significant 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, the STEM College we have established new Industry Innovation Hubs with significant industry engagement at scale in our priority sector areas including space tech, advanced manufacturing, food, health tech and digital tech. Our connections are with global industry via RMIT Europe, RMIT Vietnam, and our nodes/centres in India and HK.

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.

STEM College employs 1,200 staff who deliver onshore and offshore programs to approximately 30,000 students (including around 1500 PhD students).

We are here to positively impact the world and create the next generation of STEM leaders. Click [here](#) for more information about STEM College.

The **Leading Research Centre (LRC)** initiative is a mechanism designed to identify, support, and grow research areas of strategic priority to the STEM College and to RMIT.

The LRC scheme is intended to grow research excellence and reputation in priority areas for the STEM College. Its purpose is to establish the STEM College as world leading over time in identified key areas of research strength.

As part of the vision for the LRCs, STEM College wanted to identify research areas of strength in STEM at RMIT, using a bottom-up approach that allowed researchers to present a case for their own research areas of excellence.

With globally recognised researchers supported by state-of-the-art facilities, the STEM College offers exceptional opportunities for the LRCs to take their research to the next level, using existing and new college research infrastructure to grow themselves.

<https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/schools-colleges/stem-college/research/leading-research-centres>

Position Summary

The Research Assistant will undertake research activities in line with the University's research strategy. It is expected that the Research Assistant will work with an increasing degree of autonomy as skills and experience develop.

Start date: 17/4/2026

End date: 16/4/2027

Key Accountabilities

1. Conduct independent and collaborative research on two-dimensional materials, including large-area synthesis (e.g., chemical vapour deposition), heterostructure integration, and fabrication and characterization of electronic and photonic devices, delivering high-quality research outputs in leading journals and conferences, and contributing to competitive research funding applications.
2. Design, fabricate, and experimentally validate ultra-thin material systems, heterostructures, and device architectures using advanced nanofabrication and characterization techniques, translating fundamental materials research into functional electronic, photonic, and intelligent sensing prototypes.
3. Communicate research outcomes effectively through technical reports, scholarly publications, presentations, and stakeholder engagement, while contributing to the supervision and mentoring of higher degree by research and undergraduate students, and supporting collaborative research programs.

4. Demonstrate initiative and technical leadership in planning and executing research activities, troubleshooting experimental challenges, maintaining and developing laboratory capabilities, and contributing to team-based and independent projects to ensure timely delivery of project milestones and research outcomes.

Key Selection Criteria

1. Demonstrated research track record in the area of two-dimensional materials research including characterization and device (electronic and photonic) fabrication/testing
2. Demonstrated experience with large-area two-dimensional materials synthesis methods such as but not limited to Chemical Vapour deposition
3. Demonstrated ability to experimentally synthesise and characterise ultra-thin materials, heterostructures and electronic/photonic circuits
4. Proven ability to undertake scientific research and development in research programs
5. Demonstrate ability to clearly communicate research results, concepts and knowledge
6. Demonstrated initiative in research, problem solving and competitive grant writing
7. Demonstrated ability to work effectively both as a member of a research team and independently when required, to meet project outcomes and milestones

Preferable attributes include:

8. Experience in co-supervising postgraduate by research students

Qualifications

Mandatory: Qualification in the relevant discipline area preferably at postgraduate level.

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.