



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:	Based at one of the Melbourne campuses (City, Brunswick or Bundoora), however may be required to work and/or be based at other Melbourne campuses from time to time
Classification:	Academic Level C
Employment Type:	Fixed Term – 4 years
Time Fraction:	1.0 FTE

RMIT University

RMIT is a multi-sector university of technology, design and enterprise. 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. 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 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>

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.

RMIT 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 as identified in the 2023 recruitment round. 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.

Reporting Line

Reports to: A School reporting line through to the Dean, or delegate, with dotted line supervision/mentoring by relevant Enabling Impact Platform (EIP) Director/s.

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

- 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 as identified in the Vice Chancellor's Indigenous Senior Research Fellowships recruitment round, with a strong focus on impact and translation, and interdisciplinary research.
- Grow RMIT's external research funding and profile by identifying, initiating, and preparing funding applications for Australian competitive 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 internally 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. Indigeneity:
 - a. Demonstrated high level capability and commitment to continue and/or contribute to building an Indigenous research community at RMIT
 - b. Have a strong record of positive engagement with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community
 - c. Demonstrated understanding of the issues affecting Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people
 - d. Demonstrated high level ability to communicate sensitively and effectively with Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander peoples
 - e. This is an identified role and an affirmative measure therefore **ONLY** open to applicants of Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage in accordance with an exemption granted under section 12 of the *Victorian Equal Opportunity Act 2010*. **The Applicants will be required to provide confirmation of their Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage at application.**
2. Recognised and established track record of: research publications at national and international level; attracting external research funding; and conducting complex collaborative projects.
3. Demonstrated experience in identifying and building research projects to address complex challenges in the world.
4. 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.
5. Evidence of independent and original intellectual contribution with significant impact, critical thinking and leadership ability.

6. Demonstrated experience in conducting research in an area aligned with one or more of RMIT's Strategic Research Priority Areas as identified in the Vice-Chancellor's Research Fellowships recruitment round, including research outputs at national and international level, and/or successful research translation, working across different disciplines.
7. 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.
8. Proven ability to analyse and solve problems and to be flexible and adaptable in an ever-changing environment.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. 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>.

Qualifications

Mandatory: PhD or equivalent 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.

Endorsed:	Signature: Name: Title: Date: July 2025	Approved:	Signature: Name: Title: Date: July 2025
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