



Position Description – Research Assistant

Position Details

Position Title: Research Assistant

College/Portfolio: STEM College **School/Group:** School of Engineering

Campus Location: Primarily based at Melbourne City campus, and the potential to work across other RMIT campuses as required.

Classification: Academic Level A

Time Fraction: 1.0

Employment Type: Fixed term

Fixed Term Reason: Specific Task or Project

Reporting Line: Prof Chun-Qing Li

No. of Direct reports: Not applicable

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.

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

Position Summary

The ARC Training Centre for Whole Life Cycle Design of Carbon Neutral Infrastructure (“the Centre”) will bring together expertise from 21 academic and industry partners from including universities, government authorities, professional associations, and consulting companies.

This Centre aims to transform the capability of civil infrastructure stakeholders to design, construct, operate and dispose of infrastructure in a carbon neutral way. By training industry-embedded PhDs and postdocs in the methodology and technology required to design out excess carbon of infrastructure in its whole life, this Centre expects to lead the world in sustainable infrastructure design, enabling a new generation of infrastructure design in Australia and internationally. Achieving carbon neutral infrastructure in its whole life will bring significant far-reaching benefits, including equipping industry with tools required to meet Australia’s emission reduction targets as well as economic, commercial, environmental, and social gains.

The Research Fellow will be a key member of the Centre’s interdisciplinary team, collaborating with research teams and experts across the various university nodes and industry partners. In this position you will carry out independent and/or team research in the following areas: carbon assessment and management of infrastructures, structural engineering, structural design, structural reliability methods and circular economy of built environment, and applications of artificial intelligence (AI) for data mining, processing, and modelling.

As the Research Fellow, you are expected to plan, develop, and engage in high quality research projects that are aligned with the Centre and the University’s research focus areas. You will embed your research expertise into the life of the Centre through the development of high-quality, productivity-driven research networks across RMIT and with local and national, internal and external partners. You will be expected to engage in high quality research projects, to achieve success in attracting research funding and to produce high quality outputs.

Travel to other nodes of the Centre and partner organisations within Australia, and potentially international travels (as needed) will be required for collaborative work.

For further information on our research programs, please visit the Centre’s website on

<https://dfco2.org.au/research/>

Reporting Line

Reports to: Professor Chun-Qing Li, Centre Director

Key Accountabilities

1. Conduct high quality research individually or as part of a team including managing research projects within timelines and budget and ensuring compliance with quality and reporting requirements of the ARC ITTC Scheme.
2. Actively contribute to the development of research strategy within the research team, ensuring it aligns to the Centre’s strategy.
3. Participate in annual work planning and performance management processes.
4. Communicate the research outputs with key stakeholders.
5. Prepare and publish research results in high quality outlets as lead or co-author,

6. Prepare and submit external research funding applications.
7. Develop collaborations with national and international researchers and industry partners.
8. Co-supervise higher degree by research candidates.
9. Perform other duties that may be required for the efficient operation of the research team.
10. Undertake up to 10% teaching and learning program appropriate to areas of expertise.

Key Selection Criteria

1. Emerging track record and recognition for quality research outputs which will contribute to the research priorities of the Centre and the School of Engineering evidenced by publications, development of new research initiatives, competitive research funding, and industry links.
2. Demonstrated ability to supervise higher degree by research candidates.
3. Ability to build effective networks with colleagues and generate alternative funding projects through effective liaison with industry and government.
4. Excellent interpersonal and communications skills appropriate for interacting with higher degree by research candidates, staff, and industry, together with a strong commitment to teamwork and multidisciplinary collaboration.
5. Demonstrated ability to meet deadlines and effectively manage varying workloads and respond to changing priorities as required.
6. Excellent communication skills with proven ability to produce clear, succinct reports and documents.

Qualifications

Mandatory:

PhD in civil/mechanical/engineering or applied mathematics with research area related to theory or methods of reliability or stochastic processes.

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.