



Position Description – Research Assistant

Position Details

Position Title: Research Assistant

College/Portfolio: STEM college **School/Group:** School of Science

Campus Location: Primarily based at 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: Research

Reporting Line: Professor Weiwei Lei

No. of Direct reports: 1

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 Research Assistant will work with research teams using experimental approaches for the discovery and development of functional materials for wearable energy generation and storage applications. The Fellow will be based in Applied Chemistry and Environmental Science in the School of Science at RMIT University and will collaborate widely with national and international investigators involved in Sustainable Environment and Renewable Energy.

The Research Assistant will undertake research activities in line with RMIT's research strategies. The Research Assistant will also participate in the day-to-day operations of the project. They will carry out independent and/or team research which will have a significant impact in materials science and chemistry, specifically related to the smart device and renewable energy and be acknowledged at a national level as being influential in expanding materials chemistry and science knowledge related to smart technology and electrochemistry.

The Research Assistant is expected to plan, develop and engage in high quality research projects through the development of high-quality, productivity-driven research networks across RMIT with local and national, internal and external partners. The Research Assistant is expected to achieve success in attracting research funding and to produce high quality outputs including publications and patents.

Key Accountabilities

- Initiate and conduct research under limited supervision either as a member of a team, or independently (where appropriate), to achieve the objectives of the ARC funded projects relating to development of functional materials for energy generation and storage applications.
 - Contribute to building an active international research record; prepare and publish research outcomes in high quality refereed journals or books; the generation of external research income.
 - Effectively produce data and maintain data protocols. Conduct preliminary data cleaning, screening and analysis.
 - Constructively contribute to a vibrant research team and institute, including participating with colleagues in developing and maintaining links and partnerships with industry and the wider community.
 - May undertake limited teaching and learning program activities appropriate to areas of expertise.
 - Exhibit a values-based approach to academic and professional activities including commitment to 'Responsible Practice' recognising, interpreting, and acting upon multiple principles and values including reconciliation, cultural safety, ethical responsibility, diversity and inclusion, in all activities and relationships.
 - Comply with occupational health and safety policies and procedures.
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Key Selection Criteria

1. Evidence of experience in well-developed, hands-on laboratory synthesis of functional nanomaterials and their characterisation.
2. Evidence of experience in manipulating materials for improving the performance of energy harvesting and storage.
3. Evidence of experience in manipulating materials for flexible or wearable application.

4. Emerging track record and recognition for quality research outputs, which will contribute to existing Discipline and School research areas evidenced by publications, development of new research initiatives, and competitive research funding.
5. Demonstrated ability to work with and supervise higher degree by research candidates.
6. Ability to build effective networks with colleagues resulting in collaborative outcomes.
7. 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.

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.