

Position Description – Research Fellow

Position Details

Position Title: Research Fellow

College/Portfolio: Design and Social Context **School/Group:** Global, Urban and Social Studies

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

Classification: Academic Level B

Time Fraction: 1.0 FTE

Employment Type: Fixed term (4 years; part of a funded project)

Fixed Term Reason: Research

Reporting Line: Research Fellow, Technology Adoption & Social Change, ARC Research Hub IC-Sense

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 College of Design and Social Context

The College of Design and Social Context encompasses RMIT University's renowned art, architecture, design, built environment, communication, and social science disciplines. The college has 24,500 students and over 1,000 staff located in 8 schools. The College's academic programs are generally market leaders and in high demand. Based on a strong foundation of practise led, industry partnered teaching and research, we aim to deliver skilled graduates with a deep sense of purpose, and high impact research and innovation. Find out more about research in the College of Design & Social Context at <https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/schools-colleges/college-of-design-and-social-context/research>

The Research Fellow position is in the School of Global, Urban and Social Studies with an affiliation to RMIT's Centre for Human-AI Information Environments. The School has a strong industry-focused approach to education and research, where people, community, and industry partners become active supporters, advisors and participants in the academic process. The School also promotes and maintains cooperative links with the global research community, providing excellent facilities for postgraduate research students and further strengthening industry, community, and academic links.

About IC-Sense

Awarded \$4.75M funding in the 2025 round of the ARC Industrial Transformation Research Program scheme, the **ARC Industrial Transformation Research Hub for Intelligent Contaminant-Sensing in Complex Environments (IC-Sense)** is focussed on delivering end-user centric miniaturised sensing

technologies integrated with AI, for real-time assessment of contaminants, predicting potential hazards before they occur.

IC-SenseE brings together world class researchers from Australian and international universities, working together with industry leaders from the fields of health and medical devices, AI, environmental and energy, software development, and defence.

IC-SenseE researchers come from Engineering, Computer Science, Health, Built Environment and Social Science. The connectivity between these fields of research under three distinct Research Program is what differentiates IC-SenseE from other research offerings.

Learn more at <https://icsensehub.org.au/>

Position Summary

The Research Fellow will work with research teams and partnerships in the School and Research Centres. The Research Fellow is required to undertake research activities in line with the University's research strategy. The position will carry out independent and/or team research which has a significant impact in the area of their specialisation and be acknowledged at a national level as being influential in expanding the knowledge of their relevant discipline.

The Research Fellow's role is primarily to plan, develop, and engage in high-quality research projects that are aligned with IC-SenseE's research focus areas in Technology Adoption and Social Change. The Research Fellow will embed their 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. Research Fellows will be expected to engage in high-quality research projects, to achieve success in attracting research funding and to produce high-quality outputs.

This position reports to the Lead, Research Program 3, Technology Adoption & Social Change (TASC), ARC Industrial Transformation Research Hub for Intelligent Contaminant-Sensing in Complex Environments (IC-SenseE); RMIT University is the Administering Organisation. TASC focusses on consumer and workforce adoption of sensor technology, examining such topics as socially responsible design, user experience of technology, data security, and trustworthy data representation. The TASC team works with researchers and industry partners across various disciplines, examining experiences of technology adoption, such as artificial intelligence-enabled work practices. This social research program will explore consumers and workers' needs and socially responsible design from a human-centred perspective, and study innovative approaches to data representation and research translation to make outcomes accessible and actionable for diverse audiences. The Hub aims to ensure research projects create value and benefit for IC-SenseE partner universities and industry partners and, in doing so, create impact for the economy, environment, and society.

Key Accountabilities

1. Conduct high-quality research individually and as part of a team, relevant to the social research program of IC-SenseE and aligned to the Hub's strategic research priorities, with a strong focus on qualitative research, industry engagement, research translation, and interdisciplinary research including:

- project development and implementation, including project management, development of literature reviews, participatory research designs, grant applications, and strategies for engaging with external partners;
- publishing research results in high-quality outlets, and for diverse audiences, as lead or co-author;
- actively engaging in research translation activities and collaborating with industry, community, and government stakeholders, where appropriate; and,
- actively co-supervise social research program PhD students, as appropriate.

2. Actively contribute to activities that support research strategy within and across research teams, ensuring alignment to University strategy.

3. Participate in relevant professional development and IC-SenseE Hub activities and networks.
4. Be a positive advocate for research excellence and innovation that supports cutting-edge research that makes a positive impact on communities.

Key Selection Criteria

1. Emerging track record and recognition for quality research outputs that will contribute to existing high performing RMIT research teams, evidenced by such things as publications, development of new research initiatives, competitive research funding, and contributions to policy and practice.
2. Demonstrated experience in designing and conducting qualitative research, with a focus on interdisciplinarity and social sciences methodologies aligned to the IC-SenseE Hub.
3. Demonstrated experience with social research methodologies, including qualitative, participatory, and/or mixed methods approaches.
4. Experience in engaging with industry, government, or community on collaborative research projects and/or research translation activities to foster societal impact.
5. Ability to work independently whilst also leading teams and working collaboratively across different disciplines.
6. Experience in applying for competitive funding and successfully managing research projects.
7. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, with a focus on scholarly communication practices, including demonstrated ability to confidently and effectively work with colleagues, project team leaders, and industry, community, and government stakeholders, and engage, collaborate with and/or supervise higher degree by research candidates.
8. Strong commitment to the 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 a relevant social sciences research 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.