RESEARCH FELLOW

DEPARTMENT/UNIT
Emerging Technologies Research Lab and the School of Media, Film, and Journalism

FACULTY/DIVISION
Faculty of Information Technology and Faculty of Art

CLASSIFICATION
Level B

DESIGNATED CAMPUS OR LOCATION
Caulfield campus

ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT
Everyone needs a platform to launch a satisfying career. At Monash, we give you the space and support to take your career in all kinds of exciting new directions. You’ll have access to quality research, infrastructure and learning facilities, opportunities to collaborate internationally, as well as the grants you’ll need to publish your work. We’re a university full of energetic and enthusiastic minds, driven to challenge what’s expected, expand what we know, and learn from other inspiring, empowering thinkers. Discover more at www.monash.edu.

The Faculty of Information Technology aims to lead global IT research and education. Our strong reputation and international profile attracts the best students worldwide and we offer a range of accredited courses that transform our graduates into highly skilled and sought after IT professionals, equipped to work globally. Our research is multi-disciplinary, multi-campus and multi-national, giving us a unique capacity to reach out further and deeper than any other institution in Australia. Our research priorities are both technically ambitious and embedded in everyday life. To learn more about the Faculty and the exciting work we do, please visit www.monash.edu/it.

Our values:
- Daring
- Excellence
- Balance
- Passion
- Respect

The Arts Faculty is an internationally renowned faculty for the humanities, social sciences, languages, and performing arts. It is recognised for producing research that has profound social impact. It focuses on the big picture, global challenges, local solutions and how to make the world a better place. Through an engagement with different cultural environments and communities around Australia and the world, scholarship in the Faculty makes deep connections that empower us to respond to the most pressing issues faced by humankind today. Our hunger for new knowledge and new thinking sees us act as a force for positive change. In partnership with like-minded individuals – whether working in government, industry, not-for-profit or other universities – we will continue to achieve extraordinary things.
The Emerging Technologies Research Lab is an interdisciplinary and internationally embedded research lab which conducts research in the social, cultural and experiential dimension of the design, use and futures of new and emerging technologies. The Lab is a cross faculty initiative through the Faculties of Art, Design & Architecture and Information Technology at Monash University.

The rapid expansion of automated decision-making enabled by technologies from machine learning to the blockchain has great potential benefits, while it also creates serious new risks to human rights and welfare. Potential harms range from data discrimination against disadvantaged communities to the spread of disinformation for political and commercial ends. Increasing inequality, lower productivity and diminished economic security have been highlighted as risks in the coming decade.

The ARC Centre of Excellence for Automated Decision-Making and Society (ADM+S) is a new, cross-disciplinary, national research centre, which aims to create the knowledge and strategies necessary for responsible, ethical and inclusive automated decision-making. Funded by the Australian Research Council from 2020 to 2026, ADM+S is hosted at RMIT in Melbourne, Australia, with nodes in seven other Australian universities. The Centre brings together leading researchers in the humanities, social and technological sciences in an international industry, research and civil society network. Its priority domains for public engagement are news and media, transport, social services and health.

POSITION PURPOSE

The Level B research-only academic is expected to carry out independent and/or team research, analysis, academic writing for publication and external engagement, as part of a research project into Trust in Automated Decision-Making within the People and Data Programmes of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Automated Decision-Making (ADM) and Society.

The Research Fellow engages in and delivers research and analysis of academic, industry, public sector and other grey literature, stakeholder interviews and ethnographic research in order to identify how anticipatory concepts are engaged in the conceptualisation, design and promotion of ADM. The Research Fellow participates in preparing reports, contributing to video documentaries if relevant, presentations and briefing papers tailored for external stakeholders. The Research Fellow also leads on and co-author research publications, conference papers and presentations.

Reporting Line: The position reports to Director, Emerging Technologies Research Lab

Supervisory Responsibilities: Not applicable

Financial Delegation: Not applicable

Budgetary Responsibilities: Not applicable

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Specific duties required of a Level B research-only academic may include:

1. The conduct of research to the People and Data programs, either as a member of a team or independently and the production of conference and seminar papers and publications from that research

2. Guidance in the research effort of junior members of research-only Academic staff in their research area

3. Contribution to the preparation or, where appropriate, individual preparation of research proposal submissions to external funding bodies

4. Involvement in professional activities including, subject to availability of funds, attendance and presenting at conferences, seminars and industry meetings in the field of expertise, and engaging with external stakeholders
5. Administrative functions primarily connected with their area of research

6. Occasional contributions to the teaching program within the field of the staff member’s research

7. Co-supervision or, where appropriate, supervision of major honours or postgraduate research projects within the field of the staff member’s area of research

8. Attendance at meetings associated with research or the work of the organisational unit to which the research is connected and/or at departmental, school and/or faculty meetings and/or membership of a limited number of committees

9. Contributing to public understanding and debate through media, industry and/or policy engagement

10. Contributing actively to the ARC Centre’s research culture, including participation in research collaboration and community-building within the Centre’s research programmes and focus areas

11. Conforming to University and ARC Centre requirements with respect to research ethics and integrity and data management

12. Other duties as directed from time to time

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

Education/Qualifications

1. The appointee will have:
   - A doctoral qualification in a social science or humanities discipline or equivalent qualifications or research experience relating to technology and society

Knowledge and Skills

2. Demonstrated experience in the review and analysis of academic and grey literature

3. Demonstrated excellent skills in the critical review and application of theoretical approaches to technology and society

4. Demonstrated experience of qualitative interviewing and analysis of interview materials. Ideally the appointee will also have experience of ethnographic research and analysis, the use of software for analysis and coding

5. Demonstrated manuscript preparation skills; including a solid track record of refereed research publications for a variety of audiences

6. The ability to work both independently in a research environment and as part of an inter-disciplinary research team to generate distinctive contributions to scholarly knowledge and/or create real world outcomes

7. High level organisational skills, with demonstrated capacity to establish and achieve goals

8. Excellent written and oral communication skills with demonstrated ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders and research collaborators, including presentations at seminars, conferences and industry events

9. A demonstrated capacity to work in a collegiate manner with other staff in the workplace

10. Advanced computer skills with experience using Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint

OTHER JOB RELATED INFORMATION

- Travel to other campuses of the University may be required
- There may be a requirement to work additional hours from time to time
- There may be peak periods of work during which taking of leave may be restricted
GOVERNANCE

Monash University expects staff to appropriately balance risk and reward in a manner that is sustainable to its long-term future, contribute to a culture of honesty and integrity, and provide an environment that is safe, secure and inclusive. Ensure you are aware of and adhere to University policies relevant to the duties undertaken and the values of the University. This is a standard which the University sees as the benchmark for all of its activities in Australia and internationally.