ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR - DIALOGUE RESEARCH

DEPARTMENT/UNIT	Data Science
FACULTY/DIVISION	Faculty of Information Technology
CLASSIFICATION	Level D
WORK LOCATION	Caulfield campus

ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

Monash is full of thinkers and doers who are looking for their next challenge. So if you've forged a rewarding career so far, this role provides the perfect platform to join us. You'll have access to quality research facilities, infrastructure and teaching spaces to do exciting work, along with opportunities to collaborate internationally. You'll be part of a university that's made up of inspirational, challenging thinkers and doers – and continue doing work that makes a lasting impact. 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.infotech.monash.edu.au/.

The Faculty of Information Technology is establishing a new research group, The Laboratory for Dialogue Research (LDR) led by Professor Phil Cohen. The LDR has close partnerships with Monash's new HCI Group, its renowned Centre for Data Science, the Engineering School, and with numerous universities in Australia and worldwide. Importantly, we plan to engage with interested industry, philanthropic, and government partners on problem, data, and tool selection and development of scalable approaches. LDR's Director is Prof. Phil Cohen, a AAAI Fellow and internationally known pioneer in natural language dialogue, multiagent systems, and multimodal interaction. The project that ultimately became SiriTM started in his laboratory at SRI International in 1993.

POSITION PURPOSE

A Level D academic is expected to make a significant contribution to all activities of the organisational unit or interdisciplinary area and play a significant role within their profession or discipline. Academics at this level may be appointed in recognition of distinction in their disciplinary area.

The incumbent to this position will oversee and also contribute to the teaching and research that will contribute to the LDR's plans to design, build, and evaluate state-of-the-art dialogue systems based on a variety of AI technologies such as Natural Language Processing (semantic parsing, generation), Machine Learning (deep learning, reinforcement learning, Bayesian networks, etc.), Multi-Agent Systems (planning, plan recognition, collaboration), and Multimodal Interaction (fusion of spoken language, vision, gesture), etc.

Reporting Line: The position reports to Professor Phil Cohen

Supervisory Responsibilities: This position would supervise undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows

Financial Delegation: Not applicable

Budget Responsibilities: Manages Grant Funding

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Specific duties required of a Level D academic may include:

1. The preparation and delivery of lectures, tutorials, practical classes, demonstrations, workshops, and clinical sessions

2. Initiation and development of course materials

3. Course coordination including offering guidance to assistant lecturers and supervision of sessional staff in teaching unit/s if required

4. Consultation with students and supervision of PhD, honours and postgraduate students

5. Preparation and assessment of student assignments and examinations

6. Conduct of original research that will lead to publications in refereed journals or with high level academic or commercial publishers and attract external and government funding

7. Significant role in research project including, where appropriate, leadership of a research team

8. Significant contribution to the profession and/or discipline both nationally and internationally

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

Education/Qualifications

1. The appointee will have:

    - A doctoral qualification and/or recognised significant experience in the relevant discipline area

    In determining experience relative to qualifications, regard shall be had to teaching experience, experience in research, experience outside tertiary education, creative achievement, professional contributions and/or contributions to technical achievement. In addition, a position at this level will normally require a record of demonstrable scholarly and professional achievement in the relevant discipline area.

Knowledge and Skills

2. A strong publication record in high-quality journals or equivalent and outstanding contribution to the discipline

3. Successful track record in obtaining external research grants

4. Record of successful supervision of postgraduate research students and the ability to make a significant contribution to postgraduate training programs

5. Demonstrated excellence in teaching in the relevant discipline area (i.e. through evaluations, innovation in presentation and through curriculum development)

6. Demonstrated ability to mentor staff and students

7. High-level of interpersonal skills and a proven ability to establish good working relationships with colleagues, students and members of community and professional bodies

8. Demonstrated leadership in committees and other administrative work and portfolios

9. Proven ability to promote the discipline internally within the university as well as externally both nationally and internationally

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

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
- A current satisfactory Working With Children Check is required

LEGAL COMPLIANCE

Ensure you are aware of and adhere to legislation and University policy relevant to the duties undertaken, including: Equal Employment Opportunity, supporting equity and fairness; Occupational Health and Safety, supporting a safe workplace; Conflict of Interest (including Conflict of Interest in Research); Paid Outside Work; Privacy; Research Conduct; and Staff/Student Relationships.