Position Description

College/Division: ANU College of Engineering, Computing and Cybernetics
School/Centre: School of Computing
Position Title: Research Fellow
Classification: Academic Level B
Position No: TBC
Responsible to: Professor Sylvie Thiebaux
Number of positions that report to this role: Nil
Delegation(s) Assigned: D8

PURPOSE STATEMENT:
The ANU by 2025 Strategic Plan calls for the University to serve society through transformational research and education. As one of the great universities of the world, ANU is driven by a culture of excellence in everything we do. Our lived experience is increasingly one of large-scale systems of people, whose actions and interactions are influenced by our digital, physical and biological environment.
The ANU College of Engineering, Computing and Cybernetics (CECC) hosts three of the key disciplines necessary to help us design, build, regulate and secure the future. CECC is a vibrant and diverse community of more than three thousand students, staff, and visitors. Our College is comprised of three schools: the School of Computing, School of Cybernetics, and School of Engineering, supported by the Professional Services Group.
The School of Computing has a strong foundation in computing and information sciences at ANU. We are a transformative centre for research in artificial intelligence and machine learning, computer systems and software, and theoretical foundations of computing. We span traditional and modern thinking, connecting decades of computer science methodologies with modern data and computational science. Our mission is motivated by the need to design, drive and sustain strategic activities via five broad focus areas: Computing Foundations, Computational Science, Intelligent Systems, Data Science and Analytics, and the Software Innovation Institute. We foster an innovative and forward-looking intellectual agenda, built on a diverse, inclusive culture.
The Intelligent Systems activity cluster within the School focuses on the computational modelling and design of intelligent agents in complex real-world contexts. The research integrates areas of artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML) and vision, natural language understanding, and robotics, to build autonomous systems that can perceive, plan, and respond to their environment in pursuit of high-level goals. The cluster also works across the University to address questions on integrating human and social values in AI systems, touching on aspects of philosophy, cognition, ethics, and safety.
The purpose of this appointment is to:
1. Conduct Intelligent Systems research on externally funded projects as directed, in particular on the project “AI Planning: The Next Generation”, funded by the Australian Research Council.
2. Contribute to the School educational programs, in particular to the supervision of research projects and Higher Degree by Research students.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITY AREAS:
Position Dimension & Relationships:
The appointee will be a member of the School of Computing within the Intelligent Systems activity cluster, accountable to their Supervisor and to the School Director. The role involves innovative and distinctive research, educational activities, and a commitment to organisational culture. The staff member is expected to contribute cooperatively to the overall intellectual life of the School, College and University.

Role Statement:
Specific duties required of a Research Fellow may include:
1. Undertake high impact collaborative and cross-disciplinary research that generates creative works and a body of unique intellectual knowledge as relevant to the Activity Cluster, School, and College.
2. Contribute to the educational activities of the Activity Cluster and School. This includes, but is not limited to, the preparation and delivery of lectures, tutorials, short courses and workshops; the preparation of online material; marking and assessment; and consultations with students. This also includes, but is not limited to, supervision of research students and coursework students working on individual or group projects.

3. Take an active role in seeking and generating resources to support the development of deep and transformational expertise in fields relevant to the Activity Cluster, School and College. Achieve impact through engagement with a range of stakeholders and/or funding bodies and also through the preparation of research proposals.

4. Provide support to the outreach, engagement and impact activities of the School, and collaborate with other researchers.

5. Supervise less-senior academic and research staff, as appropriate.

6. Maintain high academic standards and collegiality in all education, research, impact, engagement and administration endeavours of the School, College, and University.

7. Contribute broadly to all aspects of the operation of the School, College and University.

8. Comply with all ANU policies and procedures, and in particular those relating to work health and safety and equal opportunity. Other duties as required consistent with the classification level of the position.

**SELECTION CRITERIA:**

The breadth and depth of this role are illustrated in the following selection criteria. While candidates should ideally meet all selection criteria, the School of Computing will consider all applications that demonstrate alignment with its mission.

1. A PhD or equivalent in the field of AI Planning or Machine Learning, or a related area as relevant to the research to be undertaken, with a competitive research track record as evidenced by appropriate outputs and measures of esteem.

2. Evidence of effective teaching, training, supervision, mentoring or other relevant knowledge transmission activities and of the ability to contribute significantly to delivery of the educational agenda in the Activity Cluster and School.

3. An ability to contribute to impact and engagement activities involving government, industry, the wider research community and the general public, including involvement in collaborations and partnerships with a range of internal and external stakeholders.

4. A demonstrated alignment with the School’s culture and work environment including a commitment to enhancing diversity and inclusion, characterised by an orientation to collaborative research; team-based projects; interdisciplinary activities and interests; strategic decision making; commitment to the success of peers and the team; and an ability to contribute to the strategic priorities and activities of the School and College.

5. An ability and commitment to win bids for competitive external funding to support individual and collaborative research, education and engagement activities with the Activity Cluster and School.

6. Excellent communication skills with the ability to inspire a wide range of audiences, including in cross-disciplinary areas and to foster respectful and productive working relationships with staff, students and colleagues at all levels.

7. Ability to mentor and develop colleagues to achieve goals in alignment with the College’s strategic priorities, particularly in relation to building a diverse and inclusive community life.

8. A demonstrated understanding of equal opportunity principles and policies and a commitment to their application in a University context.

The ANU conducts background checks on potential employees, and employment in this position is conditional on satisfactory results in accordance with the Background Checking Procedure which sets out the types of checks required by each type of position.

**References:**

*Minimum Standards for Academic Levels (MSAL)*
In accordance with the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Cth) the University has a primary duty of care, so far as reasonably practicable, to ensure the health and safety of all staff while they are at work in the University.

- This form must be completed by the supervisor of the advertised position and appended to the back of the Position Description.
- This form is used to advise potential applicants of work environment and health and safety hazards prior to application.
- Once an applicant has been selected for the position they must familiarise themselves with the University WHS Management System via Handbook guidance [https://services.anu.edu.au/human-resources/health-safety/whs-management-system-handbook](https://services.anu.edu.au/human-resources/health-safety/whs-management-system-handbook).
- The hazards identified below are of generic nature in relation to the position. It is not correlated directly to training required for the specific staff to be engaged. Identification of individual WHS training needs must be in accordance with WHS Local Training Plan and through the WHS induction programs and Performance Development Review Process.

### Potential Hazards

- Please indicate whether the duties associated with appointment will result in exposure to any of the following potential hazards, either as a **regular** or **occasional** part of the duties.

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**OTHER POTENTIAL HAZARDS (please specify):**