

# Position Description

## Senior Research Fellow



### Details

Area	Research and Innovation
Team	Institute for Frontier Materials (IFM)
Location	Waurin Ponds campus
Classification	Level C
Reports to	Associate Professor in Textile Research

### Deakin

Deakin is a Victorian university with a global impact. We are agile and innovative, and committed to making a positive impact through our excellence in education and research and the contributions we make to the wider community.

Our reputation has been built on the dedication and expertise of our staff. We offer a dynamic, diverse and inclusive working environment with opportunities to grow and develop careers. We believe that a progressive, thriving culture will ensure people choose to come, and stay at Deakin and contribute to our ongoing success.

As one of Australia's largest universities, Deakin has strong global linkages, world-class research and an education portfolio that blends the best of campus and digital delivery into a highly supportive and personalised student experience.

We offer outstanding education founded on the experience we create for our learners and guided by graduate outcomes for successful lives and careers. We undertake globally significant discovery research that benefits our communities through the innovative translation of our ideas into new services, products, policies and capabilities.

Deakin campuses sit on Wadawurrung, Wurundjeri, and Eastern Maar Countries, and the University acknowledges, values and deeply respects its connection with the Traditional Custodians and Elders past and present of these lands and waterways. Deakin is the most popular university destination in Victoria for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and has a rich history of supporting the ambitions of First Nations students, including through the NIKERI Institute (formerly the Institute of Koorie Education).

Deakin aspires to be Australia's most progressive university, with the principles of diversity, equity and inclusion underpinning our approach to education, research, employability, digital delivery, innovation, and partnerships for impact. Our vision is for an inclusive environment where we value and celebrate diversity, embrace difference and nurture a connected, safe and respectful community. We want Deakin to be a place where all staff and students feel included and respected for their unique perspectives and talents.

[Strategic Plans – Deakin 2030: Ideas to Impact](#)

[Benefits of working at Deakin](#)

### Overview

The Institute for Frontier Materials is dedicated to being at the forefront of teaching, learning, creating and social development and fostering cutting-edge research and discovery. The Institute for Frontier Materials places high emphasis on research that makes a difference and is solution-led. We work closely with industry partners and the government to put findings into practice.

The Senior Research Fellow will work closely with an industry partner on applied research into the polymerisation of nylon and polyester monomers into fibre-extrusion grade polymer. This will include scaling polymerisation capabilities from bench scale up to 1.0 kg volumes. The position will undertake polymer polymerisation, injection moulding, filament extrusion and characterisation.

The Senior Research Fellow will lead growing, increasingly productive, high-quality research, scholarship and creative activities generating high impact outputs. The Senior Research Fellow will engage in, develop, and lead academic or other collaborations that enable novel and high-quality research or creative activities in their discipline area. This position is suited to a researcher keen to explore new areas and foster research and researcher development to have applied real-world impact.

### Accountabilities

#### *Research and Innovation*

- Develop and increasingly lead industry partnerships and collaborations to enable major breakthroughs, innovative solutions for future translation into real world impact.
- Make significant contribution to seeking funding for research and creative activities, including applications for external competitive funding, external funding for commercialization and translation activities and other funding demonstrating sustained efforts.
- Demonstrate a sustained national and building international reputation, as emerging world leader, based on significant and growing focused body of work, recognised quality, excellence and impact with a sustained and growing track record of timely delivery of outcomes for industry partners.
- Develop and increasingly lead intra and inter-disciplinary research collaborations, to enable major breakthroughs in knowledge and understanding and solutions to complex problems.
- Develop and lead innovation and translation into policies, frameworks, strategy, generation of products, services, new ways of operating, priority setting and or other innovations with positive impact, with national recognition. Demonstrate timely and sustained delivery of commercialisation and translation outcomes.
- Recruit and supervise HDR students with timely completions and production and high-quality outcomes.
- Provide effective mentoring to HDR students and ECRs to support professional and career development and employability. Develop and implement initiatives that ensure widespread adoption of culture of research excellence, innovation and impact and support industry partnerships that provide HDRs and ECRs with industry experience.
- Communicate outputs to discipline(s), other sectors and the community, including nationally and increasingly internationally.

### *University Citizenship and Engagement*

- Lead the implementation of citizenship activities and effectiveness as influence/champion at local/university level. Represent the university at academic, professional and civic forums.
- Contribute to the development of citizenship activities and effectiveness at university level.
- Lead the implementation of specific aspects of the strategic agenda through faculty or school committees.
- Contribute to the development of community engagement activities at university level and lead the implementation of the University's community engagement agenda and activities.

### **Selection**

- PhD in polymer chemistry, chemical engineering and/or advanced qualifications and experience in a similar field.
- Experience in polymerisation of nylon and polyester at medium to large scale.
- Nationally recognised research reputation underpinned by publications in quality journals, and exhibitions where relevant to the discipline.
- Success in obtaining and timely completion of external research grants
- Positive engagement with research, community, industry and government to enhance the national standing of the discipline.
- Demonstrated capacity and passion for leadership of research and administration.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and a proven ability to establish good working relationships with colleagues.

### **Capabilities**

- **Emotional Intelligence** manages emotions to positively influence behaviour.
- **Collaborates** cultivates collaboration across Deakin, strives for shared outcomes, builds partnerships.
- **Engages Other** establishes effective relationships to achieve shared goals.
- **Innovates** creates an environment where creativity and innovation are valued.
- **Plans work** plans the delivery of work while balancing priorities and resources.
- **Navigates Complexity** makes sense of complex issues and responds insightfully.

### **Special Requirements**

- This position may require the incumbent to travel domestically and/or internationally to attend conferences, events and to represent the university.
- This position requires the incumbent to hold a current Working with children Check.

**Note** The intention of the position description is to provide an outline of scope and responsibilities, at a point in time. Please note, responsibilities may evolve in accordance with organisational needs.