

### Details

Area	Research and Innovation
Team	Institute for Frontier Materials (IFM)
Location	Waurin Ponds campus
Classification	HEW level 7
Manager Title	Manager, Strategic Research Services

### 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 Research Engineer works within the fibre and textile group and collaborates with colleagues to ensure the efficient, effective and timely delivery of all facets of fibres and textiles processing, fabrication (i.e. fibre production, fibre spinning, non-woven), and characterisation for research projects and commercial contracts. The position engages with academic staff, HDR students, industry partners, and other stakeholders to understand their research needs, design solutions, and deliver outcomes using IFM's fibre and textile facilities.

Reporting to the Manager, Strategic Research Services the position provides operational support to IFM's fibre and textile facilities and:

- Provide expert advice and apply strong technical skills on all matters associated with fibres and textiles to stakeholders, colleagues and team members, including other technical staff as appropriate
- Assist staff and students in the design, development, training, manufacture, repair and commissioning of fibre and textile laboratory and pilot processing equipment, and bespoke experimental equipment to ensure that research programs operate efficiently and effectively
- Learn skills and techniques across the disciplines as needed, and promote technical solutions to modernise work practices and ensure alignment with Deakin's strategic direction
- Clarify expectations and respond promptly to client requests, queries, or complaints to ensure client needs are met to agreed standards and timelines in the provision of technical assistance to staff and students in undertaking experiments and research activities
- Meet regularly with the group leader and senior research staff for the purposes of planning and management of the Institute's space and building projects
- Enhance convenience and accessibility by providing a range of service options, aligned with policy and procedures that deliver a consistent approach to the running of lab spaces within the institute
- Maintain all relevant documentation and adhere to all procedures concerning Standard Operating Procedures and Risk Assessments for all designated research areas

### Accountabilities

- Distil the core issues from complex information and draw accurate conclusions and present logical arguments that address the core issues. Condense complex information and next steps into simple concise terms that others can understand.
- Draw on a diverse range of people, groups and resources to identify new ways of doing things and use knowledge of innovation principles to analyse current processes and practices.
- Establish and demonstrate a high level of learning, energy and commitment and welcome feedback from others and use this feedback to improve learning.
- Prioritise work and critical activities, evaluate progress, identify relevant solutions and select the most appropriate from the range of alternatives. Challenge existing processes by formulating creative and inclusive alternative solutions and benefits.
- Identify situations in which change is needed and understand and communicate the reasons for the change. Implement change through appropriate channels and overcome obstacles to change.
- Give balanced, constructive feedback that takes in to account individual capability and supports team performance. Ensure team members responsible for implementing work priorities have role clarity, the authority to act and feel empowered and supported to act. Implement strategies to promote positive emotional wellbeing across the team.
- Actively seek feedback from customers regarding their satisfaction with products or services received. Respond to feedback with openness and transparency and seek to identify ways to better service the customer.
- Build new and productive relationships with a diverse range of potential students, stakeholders or key and influential individuals both inside and outside the University

### Selection

- A Degree in fibres and textiles, or relevant discipline (materials, chemical or mechanical engineering) with substantial subsequent relevant experience; or
- Extensive experience and management expertise in technical fields; or
- An equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training.
- Experience and expertise in fibre and textile instrumentation expertise (production and characterisation).
- Experience in project management.

### Capabilities

- **Communicates** engages others through persuasive and influential communication.
- **Delivers Outcomes** creates clarity through governance, makes decisions that result in quality outcomes.
- **Collaborates** cultivates collaboration across Deakin, strives for shared outcomes, builds partnerships.
- **Engages Other** establishes effective relationships to achieve shared goals.
- **Plans work** plans the delivery of work while balancing priorities and resources.
- **Improves Work** proactively improves the efficiency and quality of processes and systems.

### Special Requirements

- This position may require the incumbent to occasionally work outside business hours.
- This position may require the incumbent to travel from time-to-time within Victoria, domestic and/or international 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.