

# Position Description

## Associate Research Fellow



### Details

Area	Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Innovation
Team	Institute of Frontier Materials (IFM)
Employment	Fixed-Term / Full -Time
Location	Geelong Waurn Ponds
Classification	Level A
Reports to	A/Professor Chris Hurren and A/Professor Rangam Rajkhowa

### 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 of Frontier Materials (IFM) is dedicated to being at the forefront of teaching, learning, creating and social development and fostering cutting-edge research and discovery. IFM 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 Associate Research Fellow will engage collaboratively to conduct high-quality research, scholarship and creative activities generating high impact outputs, with mentorship from leaders within the research team. This position is suited to an emerging researcher keen to explore and build on new areas and foster research and researcher development to have real-world impact and contribute to a dynamic and enthusiastic research team.

The Associate Research Fellow will work with the Future Fibres Group and is expected to contribute to the research outputs of the Institute for Frontier Materials. The work of the Future Fibres Group is built on the themes of sustainability, circular economies and extraordinary functionality. Our people contribute to a culture that embraces change, develops solutions to community and industry problems, performs research safely and understands the impact our work can have on the environment.

The focus of this position is to work on an industry partnership project on spinning yarn from short staple wool fibres using a short staple spinning technology. The work will investigate spinning both blends and pure wool fibres. The person should understand spinning, fibre and yarn structure, evaluation and characteristics of fibres, yarn and textile materials, dyeing and fabric manufacturing.

### Accountabilities

#### *Research and Innovation*

- Conduct high-quality research, scholarship and creative activities generating high impact outputs, with mentorship
- Engage collaboratively to participate in novel and high-quality research or creative activities
- Communicate outputs, including as part of team
- Ensure impact of academic activity on the field and the community
- Support and may lead applications for funding for research and creative activities
- Begin building body of work and reputation and recognition for quality, excellence and impact
- Participate in intra- and inter-disciplinary research collaborations
- Build awareness of industry partners and participates in opportunities for research partnerships
- Support and may lead in applications for external competitive and other funding
- Begin to build track record of timely delivery of outcomes for industry partners
- Co-supervise honours to timely outcomes with productive high-quality outcomes
- Develop working relationship with mentors and supervisors
- Develop early career research plan with guidance from mentors and supervisors
- Adopt culture of research excellence, innovation and impact
- Build awareness of relevant industry partners and opportunities for HDRs/ECRs placements
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### *University Citizenship and Engagement*

- Contribute to Deakin community and its effectiveness via local engagement and citizenship activities
- Understand the objectives and outcomes to be delivered by the University's strategic agenda
- Contribute to community beyond Deakin via engagement activities
- Support Deakin community engagement plan

### **Selection**

#### *Qualifications and experience*

- PhD in a relevant discipline and/or other relevant qualifications and experience
- Emerging research and scholarship through publications, and/or exhibitions as appropriate to the discipline
- 1-2 years of experience in short staple carding, drawing and spinning.
- Ability to contribute to communities through research
- Capacity to contribute to teaching, research and administration
- Excellent interpersonal skills and a proven ability to establish good working relationships with colleagues
- Ability to contribute to community engagement for research

### **Capabilities**

- **Emotional Intelligence** manages emotions to positively influence behaviour.
- **Growth Mindset** open to learning and new experiences, invests in development.
- **Communicates** engages others through persuasive and influential communication.
- **Engages Other** establishes effective relationships to achieve shared goals.
- **Plans work** plans the delivery of work while balancing priorities and resources.
- **Navigates Complexity** makes sense of complex issues and responds insightfully.

### **Special Requirements**

- Infrequent travel will be required to other sites
- Drivers Licence
- 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.