

Position Description

Solutions Architect



Details

Area	University Services Portfolio
Team	Digital Services
Location	Flexible, all campuses
Classification	HEW level 9
Reports to	Senior Manager, Enterprise Architect

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 Solutions Architect translates functional and non-functional requirements into holistic solution designs described through various architecture and design artefacts. The position delivers designs that align to the University's architecture principles, mitigate risks and maximise the University's opportunities in driving the digital frontier.

The Solutions Architect proactively and holistically leads and supports digital architecture activities that guide the development and management of a portfolio of solutions. Solutions include projects, products, systems (including applications, technologies, processes and information), shared infrastructure services and shared application services.

Leveraging a deep understanding of business goals, objectives and business outcomes, business capabilities, value- streams, and business processes, the position provides the necessary leadership, analysis and design tasks related to support the development of technology solutions to ensure they meet business needs and align with architectural governance and standards. The position creates deliverables for managing the organization's portfolio of "to be" and "as is" solutions — including systems (applications, processes and information), shared infrastructure services, and shared application services and components to enable and drive targeted business outcomes.

Reporting to the Senior Manager, Enterprise Architect the role will:

- Provide architectural and design leadership for assigned program(s)/project(s) through all phases.
- Ensure architecture aligns with enterprise architecture roadmaps and adheres to established architectural principles.
- Communicate and escalate architectural risks and issues.
- Identify organisational and financial impact of the solution architecture and required consequential actions.
- Analyse current technology environments to detect critical deficiencies and recommend solutions for improvement.
- Analyse technology industry and market trends, and determine their potential impact on Deakin and the assigned program(s)/project(s)
- Establish and maintain strong relationships with Executive Deans, Executive Directors, Senior Leadership, Digital Services, other Faculty and divisional staff as required
- Collaborate with third party organisations, vendors and contractors

Accountabilities

- Use knowledge of key business drivers to inform the development of concepts and strategies and use information from a diverse range of people, groups and resources to make critical strategic decisions.
- Translate complex issues into clear and understandable goals and targets for Deakin and encourage and coach others to question traditional assumptions and review practices and policies
- Manage workloads and resources to deliver agreed outcomes and establish systems and procedures to guide work and track progress. Continually evaluate progress and re-prioritises work based on changing needs.
- Integrate multiple data sources to seek trends and analyse specific challenges. Discusses and understand broad constructs rather than concrete examples and implement solutions, evaluate effectiveness and adjust actions as required.
- Draw on a range of information sources to identify new ways of doing things and ways of being inclusive to ensure implementation of continuous improvement strategies in own work area. Use accepted theory and practices to develop and deploy continuous improvement actions.
- Set a positive example of achievement and inspire others to succeed with ethics and recognise and reward performance and behaviours that contribute to the delivery of results and high-quality outcomes that meet the needs of a diverse range of stakeholders.
- Gain stakeholder support and generate enthusiasm about change and develop a safe environment to express views and promote inclusive and respectful issue resolution.
- Provide tailored coaching to enable individuals to deliver high quality solutions and set clear standards of expected behaviour. Lead with values, ethics and emotional intelligence to grow team resilience, inclusion and performance. Actively look for opportunities to celebrate and reward outstanding performance.

Selection

- Postgraduate qualifications and extensive relevant experience; or
- Extensive experience and management expertise; or
- An equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training (computer-related or information technology related discipline)
- Experience in Enterprise architecture and strategic management approaches and methodologies
- Extensive and demonstrated experience in solutions architecture, business requirements (functional & non- functional), and technical design and analysis in a complex and maturing environment.
- Demonstrated experience in developing Solution Architecture Designs, as well as leading, guiding and collaborating with multi-disciplinary technical and non-technical teams in program/project implementations.
- Demonstrated experience of communicating Solution Architecture's relevance in all areas of an organisation.
- Demonstrated exposure to multiple, diverse industries as well as contemporary technical configurations, technologies and ICT environments.
- Working knowledge of TOGAF (The Open Group Architecture Framework) applied to solutions architecture

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- Exposure and conversant on a broad range of current diverse technologies, platforms, processing environments and business issues
- Good understanding of product management, agile principles and development methodologies and capability of supporting agile teams by providing advice and guidance on opportunities, impact and risks, taking account of technical and architectural debt.

Capabilities

- **Collaborates** cultivates collaboration across Deakin, strives for shared outcomes, builds partnerships.
- **Engages Other** establishes effective relationships to achieve shared goals.
- **Delivers Outcomes** creates clarity through governance, makes decisions that result in quality outcomes.
- **Improves Work** proactively improves the efficiency and quality of processes and systems.
- **Strategic Analysis** uses cross-disciplinary knowledge, intelligence and insights to inform future direction.
- **Navigates Complexity** makes sense of complex issues and responds insightfully.

Special Requirements

- This position may require the incumbent to occasionally work outside business hours.
- 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.