The University of Melbourne 
(logo)

POSITION DESCRIPTION

School of Mathematics and Statistics

Faculty of Science

Research Fellow in Pure Mathematics / Mathematical Physics

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| Position No | 0055913 |
| Classification | Level A |
| Salary | Level A: $ 75,289 - $ 102,163 p.a (PhD entry level $95,179) |
| Superannuation | Employer contribution of 17% |
| WORKING HOURS | Full-time (1.0 FTE) |
| BASIS OF EMPLOYMENT | Fixed-term for 2 years |
| Other Benefits | <https://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers/staff-benefits> |
| How to Apply | Online applications are essential.  Go to <https://www.mathjobs.org/jobs>, Login or Create a New Account, then find the position by title. |
| contact For enquiries only | Daniel Murfet  Tel +61 497 999 559  Email [d.murfet@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:d.murfet@unimelb.edu.au)  Johanna Knapp: johanna.knapp@unimelb.edu.au  David Ridout: david.ridout@unimelb.edu.au  Please do not send your application to this contact |

For information about working for the University of Melbourne, visit our website:   
about.unimelb.edu.au/careers

Acknowledgement of Country

The University of Melbourne acknowledges the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia. The University recognises the unique place held by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the original custodians of country and their continued connection to the land, waterways, songlines and culture. The University respects all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People and warmly embrace those students, staff, Elders and collaborators who identify as First Nations.

Position Summary

This is a postdoc position, associated to the ARC funded Discovery Project "Proving the Landau-Ginzburg/Conformal Field Theory correspondence" with investigators J. Knapp, D. Murfet and D. Ridout. This is a program that seeks to relate several topics in pure mathematics and mathematical physics including vertex operator algebras, W-algebras, conformal field theory, string theory, geometric representation theory, Landau-Ginzburg models, singularity theory and matrix factorisations. The ideal candidate would bring in expertise relevant to the project which complements that of the other investigators.

# Key Responsibilities

The position description should be read alongside Academic Career Benchmarks and Indicators and the Academic Performance Framework.

* The conduct of internationally competitive research either as a member of a team or independently, and the publications from that research
* Supervision, or where appropriate, supervision of major postgraduate research projects and minor undergraduate research projects within the field of the staff member's area of research
* Involvement in professional activities including, subject to availability of funds, attendance at conferences and seminars in the field of expertise
* Administrative functions primarily connected with his/her area of research
* Attendance at meetings associated with research or the work of the organisational unit to which the research is connected and/or at School and/or Faculty meetings and/or membership of a limited number of committees
* Contribution to the preparation, or where appropriate, individual preparation of research proposal submissions to external funding bodies
* Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) responsibilities as outlined in section 4.

# Selection Criteria

## Essential

* Ability to undertake internationally competitive research, either individually or as part of a team
* Ability to initiate new research ideas and directions
* Relevance of the applicant's previous contributions to the areas of pure mathematics and mathematical physics listed in the position description.
* A demonstrated ability to make a lively contribution to the research activities of the local and global math and/or physics community
* A PhD or equivalent research higher degree in pure mathematics, mathematical physics, theoretical physics or a related discipline
* A relevant track record as evidenced by a record of peer reviewed publications, journal articles as well as oral and written presentations

## Desirable

* Excellent communication skills, both written and oral
* The ability to develop research links with other departments nationally and/or internationally
* Demonstrated ability to work as part of a team and build rapport with all levels of staff within a diverse work environment.

# Equal Opportunity, Diversity and Inclusion

The University is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to providing a workplace free from all forms of unlawful discrimination, harassment, bullying, vilification and victimisation. The University makes decisions on employment, promotion and reward on the basis of merit.

The University is committed to all aspects of equal opportunity, diversity and inclusion in the workplace and to providing all staff, students, contractors, honorary appointees, volunteers and visitors with a safe, respectful and rewarding environment free from all forms of unlawful discrimination, harassment, vilification and victimisation. This commitment is set out in the University’s People Strategy 2015-2020 and policies that address diversity and inclusion, equal employment opportunity, discrimination, sexual harassment, bullying and appropriate workplace behaviour. All staff are required to comply with all University policies.

The University values diversity because we recognise that the differences in our people’s age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, nationality, sexual orientation, physical ability and background bring richness to our work environment. Consequently, the People Strategy sets out the strategic aim to drive diversity and inclusion across the University to create an environment where the compounding benefits of a diverse workforce are recognised as vital in our continuous deserve to service for excellence and reach the targets of Growing Esteem.

# Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)

All staff are required to take reasonable care for their own health and safety and that of other personnel who may be affected by their conduct.

OHS responsibilities applicable to positions are published at:

<http://safety.unimelb.edu.au/topics/responsibilities/>

These include general staff responsibilities and those additional responsibilities that apply for Managers and Supervisors and other Personnel.

# Other Information

## School of mathematics and statistics

[http://www.ms.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.ms.unimelb.edu.au/)

The University of Melbourne's School of Mathematics and Statistics is one of Australia's leading mathematics and statistics schools. It has achieved this status through the high quality of its research and teaching programs. The School offers a wide range of subjects to undergraduate and postgraduate students and is involved in aspects of community life that impact on the interests of the School and the discipline.

The School of Mathematics and Statistics has a total of 70 continuing teaching and/or research staff; 34 research only staff and consultants; 16 academic specialists and 16support staff. The School has over 240 casual and honorary staff. In 2020, there were 90Research Higher Degree and 278 Coursework Master of Science students. Five members of the School staff and one Emeritus Professor are members of the Academy of Science.

Infrastructure support for research and basic information technology facilities are provided to all members of the department. Special facilities such as high-end workstations and salaries for research fellows are supported through individual competitive external research grants. Members of the School have had considerable success at attracting support from the Australian Research Council. The school currently hosts two ARC Centres of Excellence, and has hosted four ARC Laureate Fellows, ten ARC Future Fellows and fourteen DECRA Fellows.

It is one of the objectives of the University to develop and maintain a strong international profile. In this context, members of the School have strong collaborative links with colleagues in the United States of States of America, most countries in Europe and the Asia-Pacific region.

## faculty of science

[https://science.unimelb.edu.au](https://science.unimelb.edu.au/)

Science at the University of Melbourne is the most highly ranked Faculty of Science in Australia. Science is defined by its research excellence in the physical and life sciences and is at the forefront of research addressing major societal issues from climate change to disease. Our discoveries help build an understanding of the world around us.

We have over 150 years of experience in pioneering scientific thinking and analysis, leading to outstanding teaching and learning and offer a curriculum based on highly relevant research, which empowers our STEM students and graduates to understand and address complexities that impact real world issues and the challenges of tomorrow.

We aspire to engage the broader community with the impact that Science has on our everyday lives. Through the strength of our internships and research project offerings, our students are provided opportunities to engage with industry partners to solve real-world issues.

The Faculty of Science has over 50,000 alumni and is one of the largest faculties in the University comprising six schools: BioSciences, Chemistry, Ecosystem and Forest Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics, Physics and the School of Geography, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.

The Faculty is custodian of the Bio21 Molecular Science and Biotechnology Institute, the Indigenous Knowledge Institute, the Melbourne Energy Institute, the Office for Environmental Programs and home to numerous Centres.

Science manages more than $301 million of income per annum, with a staff base in the order of 250 FTE professional staff, and more than 662 FTE academic staff.

We offer a range of undergraduate, honours, graduate and research degrees; enrolling over 10,800 undergraduate and 2,500 graduate students. The Faculty of Science is the custodial Faculty for the BSc (Bachelor of Science). The Faculty of Science is highly research focused, performing strongly in the Australian Research Council competitive grants schemes. The Faculty of Science is currently growing its competitiveness and standing in the National Health and Medical Research Council and health space.

The Faculty of Science provides community services and industry partnerships based on a solid foundation of research in the pure and applied sciences. The Faculty has an endowment of approximately $100 million. The annual income from the endowment supports more than 140 prizes, scholarships and research awards, and numerous academic positions.

* 1. The University of Melbourne

Established in 1853, the University of Melbourne is a leading international university with a tradition of excellence in teaching and research. The main campus in Parkville is recognised as the hub of Australia’s premier knowledge precinct comprising eight hospitals, many leading research institutes and a wide-range of knowledge-based industries. With outstanding performance in international rankings, the University is at the forefront of higher education in the Asia-Pacific region and the world.

The University employs people of outstanding calibre and offers a unique environment where staff are valued and rewarded.

Further information about working at The University of Melbourne is available at <http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers>.

## 5.4 ADVANCING MELBOURNE

The University’s strategic direction is grounded in its purpose. While its expression may change, our purpose is enduring: to benefit society through the transformative impact of education and research. Together, the vision and purpose inform the focus and scale of our aspirations for the coming decade.

Advancing Melbourne reflects the University’s commitment to its people, its place, and its partners. Our aspiration for 2030 is to be known as a world-leading and globally connected Australian university, with our students at the heart of everything we do.

We will offer students a distinctive and outstanding education and experience, preparing them for success as leaders, change agents and global citizens.

We will be recognised locally and globally for our leadership on matters of national and global importance, through outstanding research and scholarship and a commitment to collaboration.

We will be empowered by our sense of place and connections with communities. We will take opportunities to advance both the University and the City of Melbourne in close collaboration and synergy.

We will deliver this through building a brilliant, diverse and vibrant University community, with strong connections to those we serve.

The means for achieving these goals include the development of the University of Melbourne’s academic and professional staff and the capabilities needed to support a modern, world-class university. Those means require a commitment to ongoing financial sustainability and an ambitious infrastructure program which will reshape the campus and our contribution to the communities we engage with. This strategy, and the priorities proposed, is centred around five intersecting themes; place, community, education, discovery and global.

5.5 GOvernance

The Vice Chancellor is the Chief Executive Officer of the University and responsible to Council for the good management of the University.

Comprehensive information about the University of Melbourne and its governance structure is available at <http://www.unimelb.edu.au/governance>