ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN BUILT ENVIRONMENT

POSITION NUMBER	
COLLEGE / DEPARTMENT	College of Sport, Health and Engineering
LOCATION/CAMPUS	The position is currently located at the Footscray Park Campus of the University.
CLASSIFICATION	Level D Step 1

OVERALL PURPOSE

The overall purpose of the **Associate Professor in Built Environfment position** is to provide academic leadership in teaching, research, and industry engagement within the Construction Management discipline, with a particular focus on digitalisation, construction technologies, and modern quantity surveying practices. The role strengthens curriculum quality, drives impactful research, and builds industry partnerships that enhance student outcomes and the national reputation of Victoria University.

ORGANISATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Victoria University has a bold and ambitious new vision and a seven-year strategic plan characterised by five strategic drivers. Victoria University's Strategic Plan 2022-2028, Start Well, finish brilliantly, also commits the University to the bold ambition to be a global leader in dual sector learning and research by 2028.

VU has innovated a new pedagogic and curriculum approach: the VU Block Model. This, along with the VU First Year College, has been one of the leading learning and teaching innovations in the Australian tertiary education sector over the past decade. Our embedded VU Polytechnic is a leading TAFE provider, renowned for its industry collaboration and its digital innovation in delivery. As a result, Doing Dual Differently is one of our five core drivers and points of uniqueness.

At Victoria University, our research is focused on the development and sustained application of ethical knowledge in all its forms, done in partnership and collaboration, to address the challenges of people, places and planet. In 2022, VU launched its Research and Impact Plan 2023-2028 and is one of the top ten sports science universities in the world with more recent, yet equally profound, achievements in health sciences; immunology; green engineering; the circular economy; and First Nations.

STRATEGIC DRIVERS

To achieve our vision, we have identified five Strategic Drivers, with a high-level objective, and the goals to get us to our 2028 target. Our vision is big and ambitious. It is also achievable.

1. Doing Dual Differently
2. Partnering with Principle
3. Maximising Research with Impact

4. Protecting Country
5. A Thriving Place to Study and Work

VISION

To be a global leader in dual sector learning and research by 2028.

PURPOSE

Victoria University emboldens its people to design their future and has a deep commitment to Protecting Country.

This Associate Professor in Built Environment position is part of the College of Sport, Health, and Engineering at Victoria University. The College of Sport, Health, and Engineering is home to one of Australia's largest programs in sport, exercise, and health science. It also includes a comprehensive built environment and engineering program that complements these efforts by focusing on sustainable construction, innovative infrastructure, and solutions that promote community well-being and address environmental needs. Our curriculum is developed in collaboration with industry and is informed by world-class research, equipping graduates with the practical skills and confidence needed to achieve their career goals in the health, sport, or built environment and engineering sectors.

The operations of the **College of Sport, Health and Engineering** and this position are currently located at the **Footscray Park campus** of the University though this position may be relocated to any other existing or future University work location.

An organisation chart is attached.

MAJOR CHALLENGES / FREEDOM TO ACT

This position reports to and receives broad direction from the **Head of Built Environment and Engineering** and operates within the University policies, procedures and guidelines.

The incumbent is expected to demonstrate a high level of autonomy, judgement and academic leadership consistent with Academic Level D responsibilities, including supervision of academic and professional staff, HDR students, and leadership of major teaching, research, and accreditation initiatives.

Freedom to Act

- Works with substantial independence in leading curriculum design, research programs, accreditation processes, and industry partnerships.
- Exercises academic leadership across the Construction Management discipline, including supervising staff, mentoring early-career academics, and leading cross-College initiatives.
- Leads major projects related to digitalisation in construction, BIM-enabled workflows, construction analytics, and quantity surveying.
- Represents the discipline and University in high-level external forums, professional bodies, and industry partnerships.

MAJOR CHALLENGES / FREEDOM TO ACT

Major Challenges

- Leading the strategic advancement of digital transformation, construction automation, BIM, computational construction management, and quantity surveying within undergraduate and postgraduate programs.
- Ensuring courses align with multiple accreditation requirements (AIB, AIQS, CIOB, RICS) while embedding VU's Block Model, modernised curriculum principles, and industry relevance.
- Attracting and retaining students in a highly competitive tertiary environment by developing innovative, research-led teaching that supports a diverse student cohort.
- Maintaining high research productivity and competitive grant success in a rapidly evolving construction technology landscape.
- Building strong collaborations with industry, government, and professional bodies to strengthen applied research and graduate employability.
- Balancing competing academic, research, administrative, and governance expectations at discipline, College, and University levels.

MAJOR DUTIES PERFORMED

In performing the following duties the incumbent is required to comply with quality assurance policies and procedures, and other relevant legislative requirements applicable to the University.

The major duties performed are:

1. Lead and deliver high-quality teaching in Construction Management, with strong emphasis on digitalisation, BIM, automation, construction data analytics, and modern quantity surveying technologies.
2. Provide academic leadership in curriculum and assessment design, ensuring alignment with accreditation requirements (AIQS, CIOB, AIB), industry needs, contemporary pedagogies, and the VU Block Model.
3. Lead an impactful research program in digital construction, construction technologies, sustainability, and circular economy, including publishing in high-quality outlets and securing competitive research funding.
4. Supervise HDR candidates to timely completion and actively develop research capability across the discipline through mentoring and scholarly leadership.
5. Build and lead cross-institutional, industry, and government collaborations that strengthen research translation, industry-engaged learning, and innovation in construction practice.
6. Provide leadership within the College through contributions to academic governance, accreditation processes, continuous improvement activities, and strategic initiatives.
7. Mentor early-career academics and contribute to a collegial, supportive culture, fostering excellence in teaching, research, and professional practice.
8. Represent the University in professional, industry, and community forums, strengthening partnerships that enhance WIL opportunities, employability, and VU's external profile.
9. Ensure safe work practices by identifying, assessing, and controlling risks, and by developing and monitoring systems of work consistent with University OH&S requirements.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

1. PhD in Construction Management, Civil Engineering, Construction Economics or a closely related field, with demonstrated expertise in *digitalisation of construction, BIM, automation, digital quantity surveying, or construction informatics*.
2. An internationally recognised track record of research excellence, including high-quality publications, competitive research funding, and demonstrated research impact aligned with Level D expectations
3. Demonstrated academic leadership in curriculum development, program accreditation, assessment innovation, and pedagogical enhancement in Construction Management.
4. Extensive experience delivering high-quality teaching across undergraduate and postgraduate programs, including evidence of innovation in digital construction education, BIM-enabled teaching, or QS digital workflows.
5. Demonstrated leadership in supervising HDR students to timely completion and mentoring early-career academics.
6. Strong industry engagement record, with demonstrated ability to build partnerships with industry, government, and professional bodies.
7. High-level interpersonal, organisational, and communication skills, with demonstrated ability to contribute positively to a collegial and equitable environment.
8. Demonstrated commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion, sustainability, and First Nations perspectives in curriculum and practice.
9. Demonstrated knowledge and application of relevant policies, OH&S legislation, and University governance frameworks.

Desirable

1. Professional registration or membership with: Australian Institute of Building (AIB), Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (AIQS), Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB), Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) (Eligibility for membership is considered an advantage)
2. Demonstrated capability in industry consultancy, digital construction systems implementation, or advisory roles.