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| **Job Title:** | Research Fellow (1A) |

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| **Responsible to:** | Head of research group, or principal investigator |

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| **Responsible for:** | Not applicable |

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| Job Summary and Purpose: |
| To undertake research in accordance with the specified research project(s) under the supervision of the principal investigator. |

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| Main Responsibilities/Activities |
| To undertake a range of research activities within a specified research area, assuming responsibility for specific areas of projects and making use of new research techniques and methods, in consultation with the research award holder or supervisor. This may include fieldwork, interviews, laboratory experimentation, critical evaluation and interpretation, computer-based data analysis and evaluation or library research.  Using initiative and creativity to identify areas for research develop new research methods and extend the research portfolio. Analysing and interpreting results of own research. Write up results and prepare papers for submission to appropriate journals and conferences, and other outputs as required and/or appropriate. Attend appropriate conferences for the purpose of disseminating research results of personal development. The post holder may also contribute to writing bids for research grants and will contribute to collaborative decision making with colleagues in areas of research.  Continually to update knowledge and develop skills, and translate knowledge of advances in the area into research activity.  To plan and manage own research activity in collaboration with others. To carry out administrative tasks associated with specified research funding, for example risk assessment of research activities, organisation of project meetings and documentation. Implementation of procedures required to ensure accurate and timely formal reporting and financial control.  To contribute to teaching in the Faculty by carrying out student supervision and/or demonstrating within the post holder’s area of expertise and under the direct guidance of a member of departmental academic staff, as appropriate.  The post holder may occasionally be required to supervise more junior research staff. |

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| **Person Specification** |
| The post holder must have:A doctoral degree in a relevant discipline (although individuals who have almost completed a doctoral degree may be appointed). Consideration may also be given to individuals who do not hold a doctoral degree but have required skills based on a number of years experience in specified / relevant fields The post holder will have authority over some aspects of project work and must be capable of providing academic judgement, offering original and creative thoughts and be able to interpret and analyse results. |

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| **Relationships and Contacts** |
| Direct responsibility to the principal investigator or academic supervisor. The post holder may be asked to serve on a relevant Faculty committee. There may be additional reporting and liaison responsibilities to external funding bodies or sponsors. The post holder may work on original research tasks with colleagues in other institutions. |

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| **Special Requirements** |
| To be available to participate in fieldwork as required by the specified research project |

### All staff are expected to:

* Positively support equality of opportunity and equity of treatment to colleagues and students in accordance with the University of Surrey Equal Opportunities policy.
* Help maintain a safe working environment by:
* Attending training in Health and Safety requirements as necessary, both on appointment and as changes in duties and techniques demand
* Following local codes of safe working practices and the University of Surrey Health and Safety Policy
* Undertake such other duties within the scope of the post as may be requested by your Manager.

Addendum to Role Profile

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| **Job Title:** | Research Fellow (1A) in Distributed Systems |

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| Job Summary and Purpose: |
| This information sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying generic Research RA1A Role Profile and will be used for shortlisting processes. More specifically the post holder will be expected to:  Work in a collaborative research team led by Professor Chockler on theoretical and engineering aspects of reliable distributed systems. The specific research topics will be determined based on the common interests of the post holder and the supervisor with possible areas including (but not limited to) design, implementation and verification of   1. distributed protocols for consensus and consistent data replication 2. protocols for distributed transaction processing 3. distributed algorithms for supporting Byzantine fault-tolerant data management in the context of blockchains 4. protocols for cross-chain transactions to enable asset swaps in the multi-chain environments 5. scalable data diffusion in adversarial settings 6. building infrastructure and prototypes to evaluate and demonstrate the protocols   For candidates interested in formal aspects of distributed algorithms, there will be an opportunity to overlap with the research projects of Dr Brijesh Dongol that develop verification techniques and formal semantics for distributed services and algorithms in a variety of settings. |
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| Main Responsibilities/Activities |
| To undertake a range of research/development activities within the research area, assuming responsibility for specific areas of the project and making use of new research techniques and methods, in consultation with the research award holder or supervisor.  Continually update technical knowledge and skills, and translate knowledge of advances in the area into the research activity.  Liaise closely and regularly with other members of the research group including industrial and external partners.  Produce materials for project deliverables, dissemination of the results of the project at scientific meetings.  Conduct independent research to support project dissemination plans.  Perform any other duties associated with the project, as deemed appropriate to the grade by the supervisor |

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| **Person Specification** |
| The post holder must have: **Essential**   * A PhD in Computer Science, Mathematics, or other closely related area. * Knowledge of distributed systems and algorithms. * Background in fault-tolerant distributed computing including benign and Byzantine failure models. * Knowledge of topics in distributed computing theory, in particular models of computation (e.g., synchronous, asynchronous, and semi-synchronous systems), models of communication (e.g., message-passing and shared memory), and basic approaches to specification (e.g., safety and liveness) and correctness proofs and/or verification. * Strong critical thinking skills and ability to develop novel solutions. * Ability to communicate effectively and work efficiently within an interdisciplinary international research team. * Ability to take initiative and work independently. * Ability to present ideas to other experts in the area, as evidenced by conference presentations, seminars, invited talks, or similar.   **Desirable**   * Record of peer-reviewed publications, or other similar output. * Good programming skills. * Experience implementing distributed systems * Experience with emerging technologies for secure computing (e.g., Intel SGX) and high-speed communication primitives (e.g., Remote Direct Memory Access). * Understanding of basic concepts of and/or experience with the blockchain technology * Experience with theorem provers (e.g., Isabelle, Coq) and/or model checkers (e.g., NuSMV, Spin, PAT) |

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| **Relationships and Contacts** |
| Direct responsibility to Professor Gregory Chockler. |