

# Museums and Collections Projects Program 2021

University of Melbourne

## Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology

### Project Description

#### Cataloguing Project – FEIT cultural collections database

##### Project

This project involves working with the FEIT cultural collections which are being merged into a unified EMu collection database. The project entails enhancement of existing and new records, to make them accessible online.

##### Background

The [Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology cultural collections](#) comprise the Mechanical Engineering Collection (which includes the A.G.M Michell Engineering Collection); the Electrical Engineering Education Collection; Surveying and Geomatics Engineering Collection; and the Computing & Information Systems Collection.

FEIT is creating a unified collection database for its distributed cultural collections. The integrated system will enable effective collection management, digital images of objects and photographs, and publishing of records on a web-based platform. This project will entail data enhancement of records, research and documentation of significant individuals and teams, and participation in planning and delivering the system so that it meets the needs of internal and external users.

##### Details

In consultation with the FEIT Curator the student will contribute to the creation of a unified database for the FEIT cultural collections by reviewing, updating and expanding the existing catalogue entries which currently exist across various platforms types. Fields may be expanded in areas such as acquisition details, object details and other gaps within the catalogue. Particular attention will be paid to the researching and documenting of significant individuals and teams who are connected to these collections/objects and have not previously been recorded. The student will gain experience in using the EMu collection management system. This project would suit a student with an interest in the history of technology. An understanding of collection management principles specific to the documentation of museum objects would be ideal. Knowledge of the correct procedures for the safe handling of objects is required, as is a methodical, prudent approach with a keen eye for detail.

##### Benefits

Opportunity to work closely with one of the UoM's extensive cultural collections and for professional development through experience gained in curatorial and collection management procedures and practice. Satisfaction in working closely with FEIT's significant collections and seeing them integrated into the one collection database making them more accessible to internal / external users. The application of collection management principles to the University's cultural collections enhances our long-term understanding, management and appreciation of the collections.

##### Supervisor

Dr Richard Gillespie, Curator - Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology

