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# How To Write Your Research Proposal for Our Doctor of Engineering

11 April 2024 | Information Session Webinar

## Presented by:

Dr. Vishal Sharma, DEng Coordinator

Dr. Arti Siddhpura, DEng Deputy Coordinator

# **About EIT**



We are dedicated to ensuring that you receive a world-class education and gain skills that you can immediately implement in the workforce.



### **World-Class Australia Accredited Education**

Our vocational programs and higher education degrees are registered and accredited by the Australian Government. We have programs that are also recognized under three international engineering accords.



### **Engineering Specialists**

EIT is one of the only institutes in the world specializing in Engineering. We deliver professional certificates, diplomas, advanced diplomas, undergraduate and graduate certificates, bachelor's and master's degrees, and a Doctorate of Engineering.



### **Industry Experienced Lecturers**

Our lecturers are highly experienced engineers and subject specialists with applied knowledge. The technologies employed by EIT, both online and on-campus, enable us to source our lecturers from a large, global pool of expertise.



### **Industry Oriented Programs**

Our programs are designed by industry experts, ensuring you graduate with cutting-edge skills that are valued by employers. Our program content remains current with rapidly changing technology and industry developments.



### **Unique Delivery Model**

We deliver our programs via a unique delivery methodology that makes use of live and interactive webinars, an international pool of expert lecturers, dedicated learning support officers, and state-of-the-art such as hands-on workshops, remote laboratories, and simulation software.

# **Introduction - Presenter**



### Dr. Vishal Sharma - DEng Coordinator

- Vishal Santosh Sharma is an esteemed Senior On-Campus Lecturer and Doctoral Research Coordinator at EIT, specializing in Mechanical Engineering.
- With over 25 years of experience in teaching and research, Vishal has made significant contributions to the field of advanced manufacturing.
- Vishal's research in Advanced Manufacturing has led to the publication of 108 scientific articles with over 3,600 citations, earning him a notable H-index of 34 on Scopus.
- He has demonstrated leadership by organizing seven international conferences, editing special journal issues, and publishing three books with Springer publishers.
- Vishal has successfully supervised thirteen PhD and 28 Masters students, fostering their academic growth, and has served as an Associate Editor for prestigious journals in the field.



# Introduction - Presenter



### Dr. Arti Siddhpura - DEng Deputy Coordinator

- Dr. Arti is a distinguished academic with over 18 years of experience in educating students in Mechanical Engineering at esteemed institutions in Australia and abroad.
- She excels in crafting and delivering Mechanical Engineering courses at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, utilizing synchronous and asynchronous teaching methodologies rooted in adult learning theories.
- Dr. Arti's scholarly journey includes a Ph.D. project supported by the prestigious CIEAM scholarship, focusing on stick-slip vibration-based diagnosis and prognosis of cutting tool wear, closely aligned with industry research needs.
- She currently serves as the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) coordinator, overseeing the RPL process, ensuring quality assurance, and spearheading the formulation of guidelines and policies.
- Dr. Arti's leadership extends to coordinating Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering (BME), Graduate Certificate in Structural Engineering (GCSR), and as a deputy coordinator of Doctor of Engineering (DEng) courses, ensuring seamless execution of academic programs.



# Agenda



1	Identifying the Research Problem
2	Literature Review Process
3	Steps for Research Design and Methodology
4	Research Timeline and Budget
5	Examples of Research Topics



# Research: Difference between PhD & DEng



Aspect	PhD	DEng	
Objective	Advancing theoretical knowledge and understanding in a specific field.	Applying advanced research and technical skills to solve complex industry problems.	
Focus	Original research contributing new knowledge publishable in peer-reviewed journals.	Practical and applied research impacting engineering practice and technology development.	
Research Approach	Hypothesis-driven.	Applied research.	
Aim	Prove or disprove theories based on empirical evidence.	Develop practical solutions, often leading to innovation in processes, products, or technology.	

# Research Problem



A problem exists when there is a difference between an actual situation and the desired situation

### Problem Selection:

Choose a latest topichaving shelf life of 10 years

Should have huge monetary benefit to the company/society

### Defining the Problem:

Try to use the SMART principle:

Specific, Measurable, Actions oriented, Realistic, Time constrained Formulate a research question:

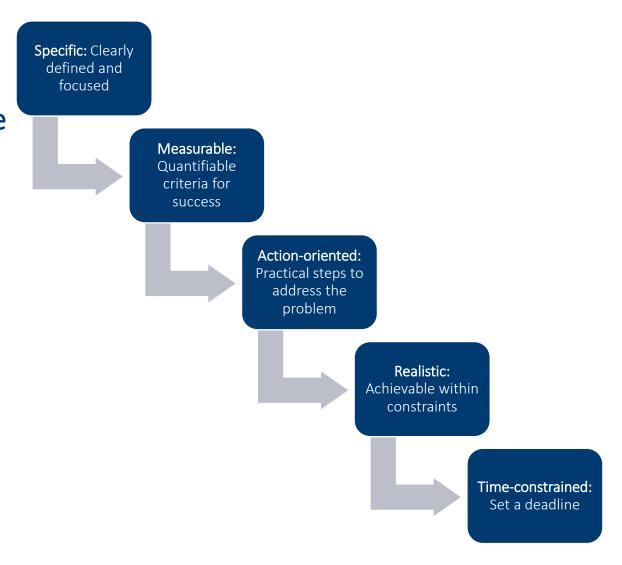
What specific problem can we address that meets the SMART criteria and has a substantial impact? How can we measure success in solving this problem? What resources (financial, human, technological) are needed?

# **Research Problem**



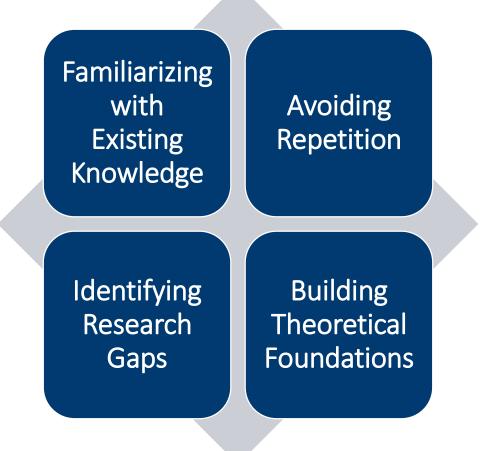
# Defining the Problem:

Use the SMART principle



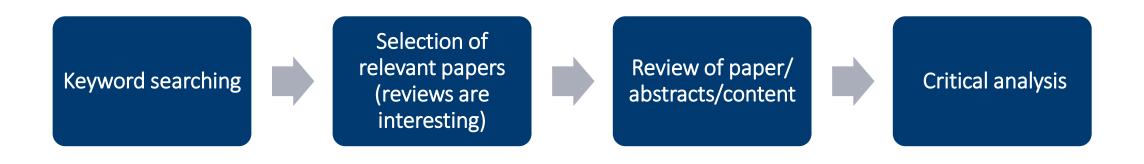


A literature review plays a crucial role in a research proposal.





Literature reviews are mandatory. Typical sequence:





### Where to Start for Literature Review:

https://scholar.google.com

http://www.sciencedirect.com

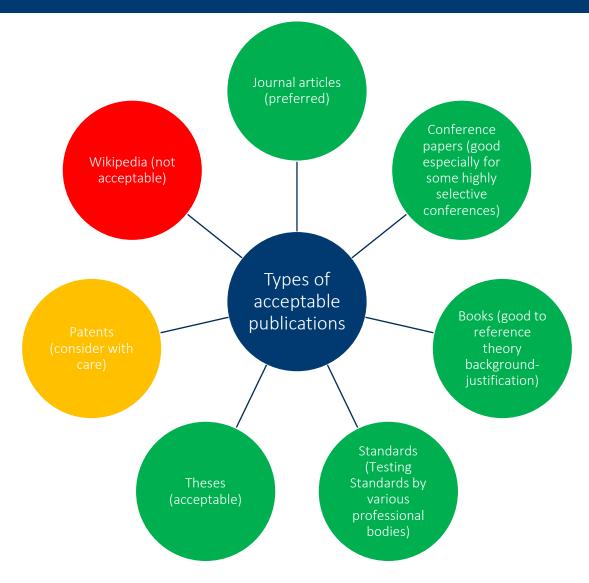
http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/Xplore/home.jsp

https://www.researchgate.net/home

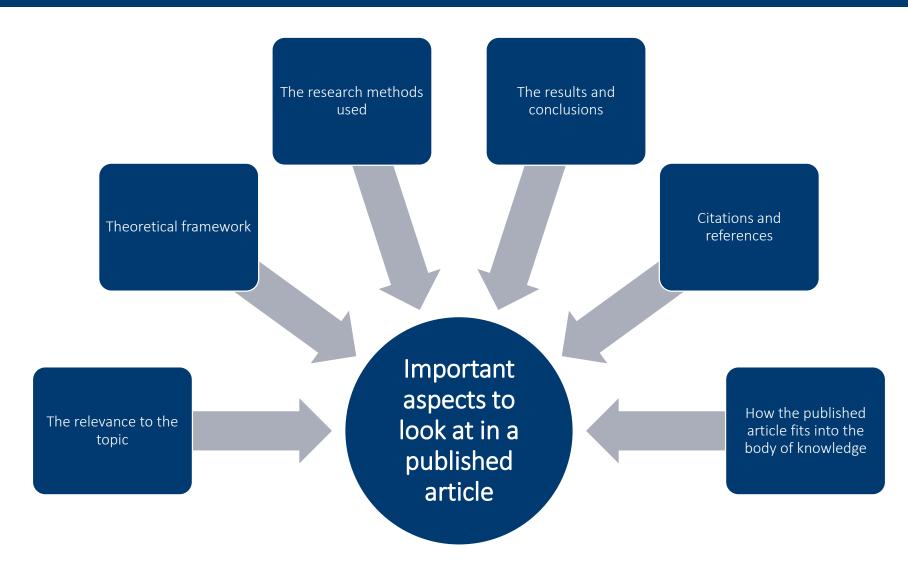
https://www.academia.edu

http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/index











Capture information in a tabular form:

Author(s), Year	Title	Research Design and Methodology	Major F indings	Relevance to your study	Notes

Present it in text also as follows:

"Chen et al. (2010) studied the audio classification problem in the predictive maintenance context. Zero Crossing Rates (ZCR) were used as features and a Decision Tree as a classifier. They concluded that ZCR is a discriminant feature. 95% of classification accuracy was reported on the NABLA corpus."



### Some Tips:

- All literature reviews should be written in Past Tense
- Three or more sentences per paper review: sufficient details should be provided so that the reader can find the papers
- All papers mentioned in the literature review should be listed in the reference list
- Conclude the literature review by summarizing the findings: identifying strengths, weaknesses, and gaps. Then, position the research project clearly in relation to the literature.
  - This step lays the foundation for developing specific objectives to solve the research problem



### Reference Sample

[1] J. Doe and A. Smith, "Innovations in Molecular Biology," Journal of Biological Research, vol. 47, no. 3, pp. 234-245, May 2023, doi: 10.1089/jbr.2023.2910.

https://ieee-dataport.org/sites/default/files/analysis/27/IEEE%20Citation%20Guidelines.pdf

Reference Manger Software: <a href="https://www.zotero.org/">https://www.zotero.org/</a>

# Research Design and Methodology



### RD 1. Experimental Study

•Methodology: Identify and manipulate variables that affect the process, conduct experiments, collect data and analyze.

### RD2. Survey-Based Study

•Methodology: Design questionnaires, select a representative sample, distribute surveys, analyze responses.

### **RD3. Simulation Studies**

•Methodology: Create a model, run simulations under different scenarios, collect data, analyze outcomes computationally.

### RD4. Original Research

• Methodology: Define a question, choose a suitable design, collect new data, analyze to generate insights.

# Research Design and Methodology



- Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, Mixed Methods
- Methods of Data Collection: Surveys, Experiments, Simulations

### Techniques for Data Analysis:

- Estimation/Prediction: Statistical, Analytical Methods, Mechanistic Models,
   Machine Learning Algorithms, Optimization
- Strategies for Ensuring Validity: Compare findings with previous research or run additional tests
- Repeatability and Reliability of Your Research: Clearly describe your methods so others can repeat the study. Use reliable tools and procedures

# Research Proposal - Structure



- Identify: Define problem and establish the research question.
- Justification: Explain the research's significance and identify knowledge gaps or problems it addresses.
- Introduction: Introduce the topic and summarize the research focus.
- Background / Review of Literature: Summarize related research and explain how your work relates. Identify research gaps and define objectives.
- Research Design and Methodology: Describe data collection and analysis methods, including design and tools.
- Time Frame and Work Schedule: Outline the timeline, using a Gantt chart for task dates.
- Personnel/ Facilities: Needed/available
- Budget/Savings: Estimate costs for personnel, equipment, and materials.

# **Example: Defining Problem**



### Aim/Goal/Big Picture

Condition Monitoring of an Electric Motor

### **Focused:**

Developing a Low-Cost, IoT-Based Predictive Maintenance System for Early Detection of Faults in Industrial Electric Motors

### **Application Focused:**

Developing a Low-Cost, IoT-Based Predictive Maintenance System for Early Detection of Faults in Electric Motors used in Assembly lines/pumping stations/extraction equipment/food processing/pharmaceutical application

# **Example: Formulate Objectives**



How does the implementation of a low-cost, IoT-based predictive maintenance system affect the early detection of faults in electric motors across different applications in terms of reducing downtime and operational costs?

### Objectives

- 1. To Identify Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Electric Motor Health: (Electrical Engineering understanding motor)
- 2. To Develop or Utilize Advanced Diagnostic Tools: (Instrumentation Engineering- Sensors and Data Acquisition)
- 3. To Establish Baseline Performance Metrics: (Base Line Development)
- **4. To Integrate Predictive Maintenance Models:** (Predictive Models Industrial Automation)

# **Example: Formulate Objectives**



- 5. To Evaluate the Impact of Maintenance Interventions:
- (Maintenance plan- Mechanical Engineering)
- 6. To Design a User-Friendly Monitoring Interface: (Ergonomics Aspect)
- 7. To Conduct Cost-Benefit Analysis of Condition Monitoring:
- (Management Aspect)
- 8. To Develop Training Programs for Maintenance Staff:
- (Manpower Development)
- 9. To Assess Environmental Impact Reduction: (Sustainability Analysis)

# **Example: Research Design & Methodology**



### For researching condition monitoring of electric motors, the methodology involves:

### 1. Literature Review & Expert Consultations:

Identify key performance indicators (KPIs) for motor health like vibration, temperature, through literature review and expert interviews.

### 2. Diagnostic Tool Development & Implementation:

Develop or select advanced diagnostic tools for real-time KPI monitoring, followed by testing for accuracy.

### 3. Baseline Performance Metrics Establishment:

Collect data under normal operating conditions using these tools to establish baseline metrics for each KPI.

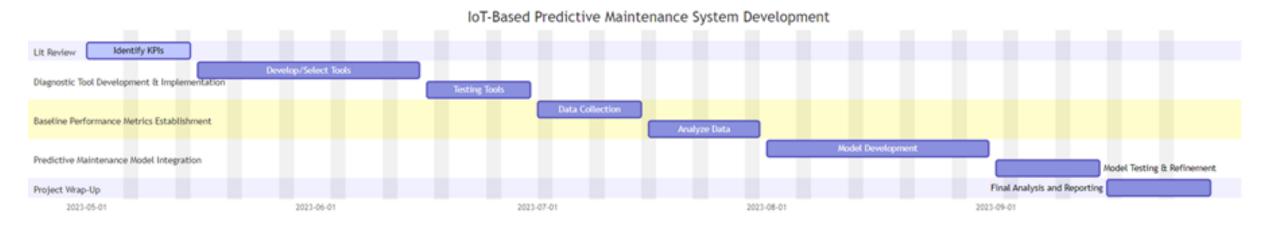
### 4. Predictive Maintenance Model Integration:

Use the collected data to develop predictive analytics and machine learning models to forecast failures, then validate and refine these models.

# Research Timeline and Budget

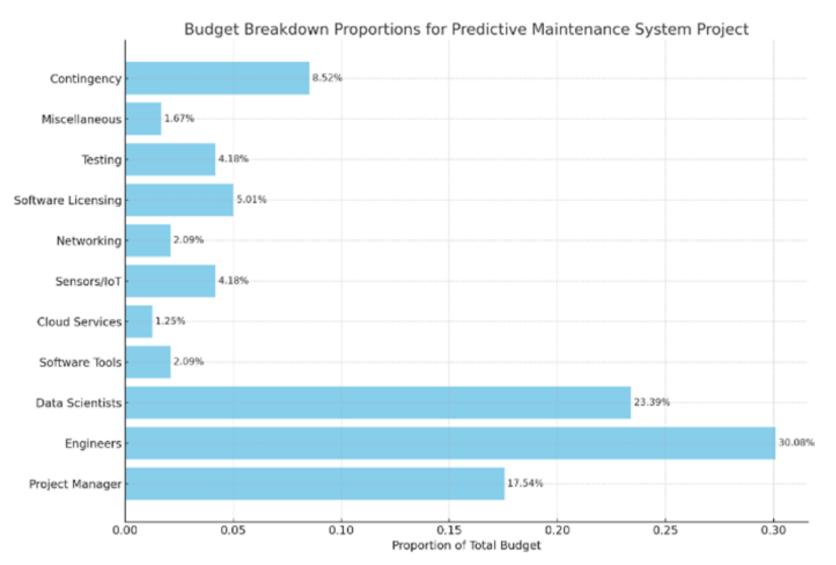


### Gantt chart for task dates



# Research Timeline and Budget







### **Condition Monitoring**

- High-Voltage Insulator Monitoring with UAV Thermal Imaging
- Predictive Maintenance in Manufacturing with Machine Learning
- Rotating Machinery Condition Monitoring Using Acoustic Emission
- Fiber Optic Sensors for Bridge Structural Health Monitoring

### Material Testing

- High-Efficiency Solar Cell Semiconductor Material Characterization
- Sensor Material Performance Under Environmental Conditions
- Fatigue Testing and Analysis of Aerospace Composite Materials
- Reinforcement Corrosion Assessment in Concrete Structures



### **Parametric Studies**

- Impact of Power Quality on Industrial Machinery Performance
- Impact of Different Control Strategies on Product Quality in High-Precision Manufacturing
- Effect of Process Parameters on Mechanical Properties in 3D Printing
- Impact of Constituent Variations on Concrete Mix Design for Durability and Performance



### **Estimation and Optimization**

- Optimizing Energy Storage in Wind Farms for Supply-Demand Balance
- Real-Time Adaptive Control for Maximizing Wind Turbine Efficiency
- Machine Learning Optimization of Wind Turbine Maintenance Schedules
- Structural Integrity and Foundation Design Optimization in Wind Turbines



### Sustainability

- Life Cycle Assessment of Next-Generation EV Battery Technologies
- Additive Manufacturing vs. Traditional Machining: A Comparative LCA
- Smart Manufacturing LCA: Enhancing Sustainability with IoT and AI
- Life Cycle Impacts of Bio-Based Construction Materials



### **Survey Studies**

- Survey on the Integration Challenges of Solar Photovoltaic Systems into Existing Electrical Grids
- Industrial Robotics Adoption: A Survey of SMEs' Implementation Strategies and Obstacles
- Material Selection in Aerospace Engineering: A Survey on the Use of Composite Materials for Weight Reduction
- Sustainable Construction Practices: A Survey on Adoption and Barriers in Civil Engineering



# Fuel your curiosity with unexplored questions, your research can lead to groundbreaking discoveries...

# **Doctor of Engineering (On-Campus & Online)**



Doctor of Engineering (online)

Upcoming intake: 22 July 2024

**Duration:** 36 months **Delivery mode:** Online

On-Campus: Doctor of

Engineering

Upcoming intake: 29 July 2024

**Duration:** 36 months

**Delivery mode:** On-Campus

Successful completion of the course will equip the graduate to take a leading role in the development of research investigations into current and future problems of industrial and community concern within their area of expertise. The program will give candidates the skills and experience to act as independent researchers or group leaders for investigations of practical importance in their professional area over their professional life.



4th Doctor of Engineering Conference (online)

16 - 17 April 2024

Register now! www.eit.edu.au/event/4thdoctor-of-engineeringconference/



# Thank you!

# **EIT Course Schedule & Enquiries**



To view our course schedule, scan the code below:



Alternatively, use the below link:

https://qrco.de/bdhXUD

For any enquiries, please **book a call** with one of our friendly course advisors:



Alternatively, use the below link:

https://qrco.de/bdsRCj

# **Upcoming Webinars**



# All upcoming Events & Webinars:

www.eit.edu.au/news-events/events/

4th Doctor of Engineering Conference

16 Apr 2024

An Introduction to Battery Energy Storage Systems and Their Power System Support

18 Apr 2024

**Insights Into EIT's Postgraduate Programs** 

24 Apr 2024

Enhancing HVAC Efficiency: Load Calculation for Energy Conservation and Sustainability
25 Apr 2024

An Introduction to Process Control

2 May 2024















Website www.eit.edu.au

**Head Office** 1031 Wellington Street West Perth Perth, WA 6005

Phone

Inside Australia: 1300 138 522

Outside Australia: +61 8 9321 1702





Email webinars@eit.edu.au

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