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| **Job Title**  | Research Support Assistant(s) (full-time or part-time) |
| **Department/Institute** | MCAST Energy Research Group (MCAST Energy) |
| **Reporting to** | Principal Investigator and Projects Manager (Research) |
| **Main Objective** | To support research area(s) related to JUMP2Excel, 3DMgrid and EDGEWISE projects within the MCAST Energy specifically on photovoltaics integration. |



**Job Summary:** This role develops and supports specific research areas associated with MCAST Energy research studies in photovoltaic integration, systems and technology considered very complex challenges and inclusion of several collaborators. The Research Support Assistant(s) ensure completion of research projects and oversees related day-to-day operations and developments. The role involves the co-author and leading of scientific papers for presentation and publication as well as supporting writing, submission and administration of specific related grants. Ensures that all study activities are completed by strictly following all current local laws, regulations, guidance, policy and procedures.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Technical**

* Gains and provides specific research skills to support the on-going development of the research team and to contribute to the transfer of knowledge in the specific research area.
* Undertake research under the direction of a Principal Investigator (PI)
* Provides support in a specific area of expertise, including the use, maintenance and management of research, including equipment.
* Performs a variety of technical duties supporting the research project or programme, as required.
* Draws up detailed technical specifications as required.
* Supports research project(s) activities.
* Oversees installation of equipment, where required.
* Assists in setting up and maintenance of equipment, where required.
* Assists PI’s and researchers in performing lab work, where required.
* Coordinates lab activity to support the research area/project where required.

**Administrative**

* Develops contacts to acquire knowledge and understanding of the research project(s).
* Facilitates collaboration by liaising with other research groups at MCAST and externally including industry projects.
* Develops and maintains a good working relationship with cross-campus departments at MCAST.
* Co-ordinate day-to-day work to support the research project.
* Liaise with the Projects Manager (Research) and colleagues on matters relating to the research.
* Develops knowledge and understanding of the research project and research related work.
* Ensures compliance with Health and Safety procedures.
* Acts as a mentor to junior researchers and other lower MQF level students.
* Creates data for use in grant submission for research including obtaining financial support.
* Perform other duties as assigned.

**Vacancy Information**

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The candidate/s is/are encouraged to enroll and succeed in further development at Masters level (full-time / part-time), and must satisfy the entry criteria within MCAST for an MRes programme. The cost of training is funded through projects.

Candidates are to indicate the first two preferences of the following topics:

1. Fusion of emerging PV technology development: Upscaling of emerging technology and On-site testing of devices (full-time / part-time)

2. Focused PV integration technical solutions: Smart-grid structures and tools including micro-grids (full-time / part-time)

3. Energy-Water Nexus, focus on PVs: Water as a means to balance energy (full-time / part-time)

4. Future Electricity Markets with PVs: Smart grids and ancillary services, and PV markets, forecasts and trends (full-time / part-time)

These positions are being funded by the European Commission H2020 TWINNING JUMP2Excel (Joint Universal activities for Mediterranean PV integration Excellence) project under grant 810809, and the Malta Council for Science and Technology (MCST) 3DMgrid (Design, Development and Demonstration of a Smart Micro-Grid) project under grant ENM-2016-002a and EDGEWISE (Energy and Water Systems Integration and Management) project under grant ENM-2016-001 through the ERANETMED initiative of Member States, Associated Countries and Mediterranean Partner Countries.

**Vacancy Qualifications & Experience Requirements**

* Preferably a strong MQF Level 6 qualification in engineering, or a closely related field preferably with a specialisation in electrical and control engineering.

*Other Requirements*

* Related academic/research/industrial experience would be considered an asset.
* Preference will be given to candidates showing research-based initiatives with published works.
* Entry criteria within MCAST MRes programme.

**Vacancy Optional Fields**

Interested candidates are invited to apply at http://jobs.mcast.edu.mt and submit a covering letter selecting the preferred topic, an updated Curriculum Vitae, copies of any English language certification (applicable for non-English mother tongue nationals), and two letters of referee contact. Applications are to be received by the closing date on this advert. Please refer any enquiries to brian.azzopardi@mcast.edu.mt.