MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Research Assistant Positions in the Photonic Systems Research Laboratory

Prof. Thomas Clark, ECE Department, Michigan State University

Position Description: Multiple Research Assistant positions are available to work in the Photonic Systems Research Laboratory which focuses on the application of photonic technology to the development of advanced systems for communications, sensing and signal processing. Additional interests are creating enabling subsystems for emerging applications such as quantum computing and sensing, and autonomy and artificial intelligence. Principal technology areas include millimeter wave and microwave photonic systems and photonic integrated circuits for microwave photonics with an emphasis on efficiently realizing agile, reconfigurable and multifunctional systems.

Position Requirements: B.S. or M.S. in Electrical Engineering, Physics or related field, strong background in electromagnetics, experience with laboratory measurement equipment, familiarity with scientific computing using tools such as Matlab and Python and a desire to understand and progress the complex and rewarding field of photonics.

Interested students should contact Professor Thomas Clark (**trclark@msu.edu**), Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, Michigan State University. Positions are open to start in January 2026, Summer 2026 and Fall 2026.

About Michigan State University and the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department: MSU is an R1 university that enjoys a park-like campus with some outlying research facilities and natural areas. The campus is in the city of East Lansing, adjacent to the capital city of Lansing. The Lansing metropolitan area has a diverse population of approximately 541,000. Local communities have excellent school systems and place a high value on education. Advancing, disseminating, and applying engineering knowledge has been the focus of the MSU College of Engineering for more than 130 years. The mission of the MSU College of Engineering is to deliver the highest-quality engineering graduates, cutting-edge research, and innovative technology for the benefit of society locally and globally. The college carries out its mission through educational and research programs over eight departments tackling interdisciplinary themes such as computational sciences, energy, health, manufacturing, materials, mobility, security, and sustainability with research expenditures totaling $60 million annually.

The Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering department has strong interdisciplinary research and educational programs on a foundation of core electrical and computer engineering disciplines and provides first-class education while engaging in research at the frontiers of knowledge. The Department has 44 faculty members, including 14 IEEE Fellows,14 NSF CAREER, 3 DARPA YFA, one AFOSR YIP awardee, and four University Distinguished Faculty members. The Department has strong research programs in all major areas of electrical and computer engineering, with annual research expenditures of over $18 million. Faculty in the Department are leading several federal and industry-supported centers including the Fraunhofer USA Center Midwest (CMW) for Coatings and Diamond Technologies and the Space Electronics Initiative (https://frib.msu.edu/news/2022/msu-space-electronics-center). The Department has accredited B.S. degree programs in both Electrical Engineering and Computer Engineering. The

current enrollment is approximately 200 full-time graduate students and 860 undergraduate students. For additional information about the ECE Department please visit https://ece.msu.edu/.

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