POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Senior Research Technician
Organisation Unit: School of Clinical Medicine
Position Number: To be confirmed
Type of Employment: Full-time, fixed term 12 months
Classification: HEW Level 5

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

The University of Queensland (UQ) contributes positively to society by engaging in the creation, preservation, transfer and application of knowledge. UQ helps shape the future by bringing together and developing leaders in their fields to inspire the next generation and to advance ideas that benefit the world. UQ strives for the personal and professional success of its students, staff and alumni. For more than a century, we have educated and worked with outstanding people to deliver knowledge leadership for a better world.

UQ ranks in the world's top universities, as measured by several key independent ranking, including the Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities (43), the US News Best Global Universities Rankings (52), QS World University Rankings (47), Academic Ranking of World Universities (55), and the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (65). UQ again topped the nation in the prestigious Nature Index and our Life Sciences subject field ranking in the Academic Ranking of World Universities was the highest in Australia at 20.

UQ has an outstanding reputation for the quality of its teachers, its educational programs and employment outcomes for its students. Our students remain at the heart of what we do. The UQ experience – the UQ Advantage – is distinguished by a research enriched curriculum, international collaborations, industry engagement and opportunities that nurture and develop future leaders. UQ has a strong focus on teaching excellence, winning more national teaching excellence awards than any other in the country and attracting the majority of Queensland's highest academic achievers, as well as top interstate and overseas students.

UQ is one of Australia’s Group of Eight, a charter member of edX and a founding member of Universitas 21, an international consortium of leading research-intensive universities.

Our 50,000-plus strong student community includes more than 13,000 postgraduate scholars and more than 12,000 international students from 144 countries, adding to its proud 240,000-plus alumni. The University has about 7,000 academic and professional staff and a $1.8 billion annual operating budget. Its major campuses are at St Lucia, Gatton and Herston, in addition to teaching and research sites around Queensland and Brisbane city. The University has six Faculties and four University-level Institutes. The Institutes, funded by government and industry grants, philanthropy and commercialisation activities, have built scale and focus in research areas in neuroscience, biomolecular and biomedical sciences, sustainable minerals, bioengineering and nanotechnology, as well as social science research.
UQ has an outstanding track-record in commercialisation of our innovation with major technologies employed across the globe and integral to gross product sales of $11billion+ (see http://uniquest.com.au/our-track-record).

UQ has a rapidly growing record of attracting philanthropic support for its activities and this will be a strategic focus going forward.

Faculty of Medicine

The University of Queensland’s Faculty of Medicine is an internationally recognised provider of world-class education and research. The research-intensive Faculty has a gross budget of almost $300 million, employs approximately 1000 continuing and fixed-term staff (headcount), has a community of more than 4000 non-salaried academic appointees and around 3200 students (headcount).

The Faculty of Medicine offers Australia’s largest medical degree program for graduates and school-leavers. Undergraduate and postgraduate programs are available in the disciplines of Medicine, Health Sciences, E-Health, Mental Health, Biomedical Sciences and Public Health.

The Faculty possesses enormous strengths spanning research, teaching, industry engagement and clinical practice in disciplines ranging from the basic sciences, biomedical research and development, to clinical trials and public health. Research projects within the Faculty have already led to discoveries with far-reaching social and economic impacts, including the revolutionary Gardasil (TM) vaccine for cervical cancer (Professor Ian Frazer) and a drug discovery EMA401 (Professor Maree Smith), a first-in-class oral treatment for chronic pain which through Spinafex Pharmaceuticals led to Australia’s largest biotechnology commercialisation deal. Faculty staff include three highly cited authors, one Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS), three Fellows of the Australian Academy of Science (FAA) and 12 Fellows of the Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (AAHMS). The Faculty is a core member of Brisbane Diamantina Health Partners, the Brisbane-wide academic health science system.

Educational offerings in biomedical sciences, medicine and public health are informed and supported by research activity across a range of fundamental and clinical areas of importance including recognised strengths in cancer, skin diseases, brain and mental health, maternal and child health and genomics. Cutting-edge facilities such as the Herston Imaging Research Facility (HIRF), the UQ Centre for Clinical Research (UQCCR), our laboratories in the Translational Research Institute (TRI) and the new Centre for Children’s Health Research (CCHR) enable outstanding research outcomes and sharpen our understanding of cancer, autoimmunity, mental disorders, infectious diseases and neurological disease. Further details are available at www.medicine.uq.edu.au.

School of Clinical Medicine

The School of Clinical Medicine has a strong focus on the delivery of both phases of the Medicine program across a number of sites within the Brisbane metropolitan area, including but not limited to, the Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital, Herston; the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Woolloongabba as well as QE2 and Redlands Hospitals; the Prince Charles Hospital, Chermside as well as Redcliffe and Caboolture Hospitals; Mater and Lady Cilento Childrens Hospitals, South Brisbane; Ipswich Hospital, Ipswich; Greenslopes Private Hospital, Greenslopes; Wesley and St Andrew’s Hospitals, Brisbane; the Primary Care Clinical Unit, Herston and the St Lucia Campus. Leadership at each site is provided by an experienced academic with responsibility for budget and financial matters, human resource matters and facility management. The School consists of academic staff members across all clinical disciplines and more than 2500 academic title holders.
Information for Prospective Staff

Information about life at UQ including staff benefits, relocation and UQ campuses is available at - [http://www.uq.edu.au/current-staff/working-at-uq](http://www.uq.edu.au/current-staff/working-at-uq)

DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

To work as part of a team focused on the development of novel treatments for liver disease and hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). The research will examine the mechanisms which play a role in the development and progression of liver disease and HCC and use this knowledge to develop methods to target the liver injury and cancer.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Conducting (under supervision) real-time PCR, Western blotting, IHC and a variety of other molecular and cell biology techniques.
- Conducting (under supervision) immunological techniques such as FACS, Flow Cytometry
- Supporting the evaluation and treatment of preclinical models of cancer.
- Assisting with patient sample handling.
- Conducting data analysis.
- Conducting (under supervision) biochemical analysis and experimental validation.
- Assisting research staff.
- Presenting results of research at meetings at all levels – laboratory, institutional, national and international as appropriate
- Maintaining safety and ethical requirements of the work
- Acquiring and maintaining familiarity with relevant scientific literature
- Liaising with the group leader and other team members about the research results and direction.
- Fostering the School’s relations with industry, government departments, professional bodies and the wider community.
- Any other duties as reasonably directed by your supervisor
Other
Ensure you are aware of and comply with legislation and University policy relevant to the duties undertaken, including but not exclusive to:

- the University's Code of Conduct
- requirements of the Queensland occupational health and safety (OH&S) legislation and related OH&S responsibilities and procedures developed by the University or Institute/School
- the adoption of sustainable practices in all work activities and compliance with associated legislation and related University sustainability responsibilities and procedures
- requirements of the Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000, the National Code 2007 and associated legislation, and related responsibilities and procedures developed by the University

Organisational Relationships
The position reports to the Head of Disciple and Mayne Chair of Medicine.
SELECTION CRITERIA

**Essential**
- Bachelor degree and Honours (preferable) in a relevant field (e.g. molecular biology, cell biology, immunology) or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training.
- Must have demonstrated skills in immunology, molecular and cell biology techniques.
- Ability to achieve and maintain international benchmark standards of excellence in research.
- Ability to work both collaboratively and independently in a research laboratory.
- Good problem solving skills and troubleshooting, with the ability to adapt procedures and techniques as required to achieve objectives.
- Ability to work collaboratively with all other members of the research team including research students, visiting scientists, administrative and medical staff.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability and an interest in accepting responsibility for the conduct and completion of the research program.
- Well developed organisational and time management abilities and have a track record of finishing tasks on time and to a high standard.

**Desirable**
- Experience in experimental models of liver injury and cancer.
- Experience in cancer immunology.
- Experience in cancer immunotherapy.
- Experience in cancer stem cells.
- Publication in peer reviewed journals.
- Presentations at national/international conferences.

The University of Queensland values diversity and inclusion and actively encourages applications from those who bring diversity to the University. Please refer to the University’s Diversity and Inclusion webpage (http://www.uq.edu.au/equity) for further information and points of contact if you require additional support.

This role is a full-time position; however flexible working arrangements may be negotiated.

Accessibility requirements and/or adjustments can be directed to the contact person listed in the job advertisement.