POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Veterinary Technician
Organisation Unit: School of Veterinary Science
Type of Employment: Full Time Continuing
Classification: Hew Level 4
Location: Gatton

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.

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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.

Organisational Environment

The Faculty of Science is recognised as a powerhouse for some of the world's leading scientists, teachers, science programs and commercial outcomes. The Faculty is one of the largest Science groupings in Australia, with approximately 1100 (equivalent full-time) staff, and about 7500 (equivalent full-time) students.

Throughout its Schools and Centres, the Faculty unites the disciplines of agriculture and animals, biomedical and biological sciences, chemistry, earth sciences, food sciences, geography, marine science, maths and physics, the environment and veterinary science.

With strong links between the enabling and applied sciences, UQ researchers and graduates are working on a wide range of ground breaking projects from the molecular characterisation of drug resistant bacteria that affect piglets through to finding better treatments for illness and rehabilitation of the environment.

Information about the Faculty may be accessed on the Faculty's web site: http://www.science.uq.edu.au/

The School of Veterinary Science has a rich history, having been founded in 1936, and with a reputation for graduating highly capable veterinarians. The Veterinary Science program at UQ has full accreditation with the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council, the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and the American Veterinary Medical Association. The School also contributes to programs in veterinary technology and animal & veterinary bioscience. The respected QS World Rankings recently ranked UQ as 22nd in the world in the field of Veterinary Science.

The School of Veterinary Science has high quality facilities at the UQ Gatton Campus, providing the teaching, research and clinical infrastructure and resources to further develop its strong reputation as a leading provider of veterinary training, research and clinical care. The Veterinary Teaching Hospital is an organisational unit within the School that includes all of the School's clinical facilities; the equine and small animal hospitals at Gatton, the Clinical Studies Centre at Gatton, and a small animal hospital & large animal clinic at Dayboro (northwest of Brisbane).

UQ VETS Equine Specialist Hospital has a strong caseload that is largely referral based with some primary accession cases. Facilities include orthopedic, soft tissue and standing surgery operating theatres; advanced diagnostic equipment (digital radiography, computed tomography (CT), nuclear scintigraphy, and echocardiography), high speed treadmill, intensive care unit (including dedicated foal ICU) and dedicated isolation unit. The hospital offers a 24 hour emergency medical and surgical service. UQ BVSc students spend a month rotating through the hospital in their final year.

UQ VETS Small Animal Hospital boasts the latest in veterinary medical and surgical diagnostic and treatment options which underlie the School of Veterinary Sciences' commitment to providing high quality, compassionate care to meet the needs of the patient, client, referring veterinarian and clinical year veterinary students. The Small Animal Hospital provides a 24 hour Emergency and Critical Care service.
UQ VETS Dayboro is one of the few truly mixed practices within easy commuting distance of Brisbane. This new facility was opened in 2013, with upgrade of the small animal facilities to hospital status, improved large animal outpatient facilities, and accommodation for nine students. Situated 45 minutes north of Brisbane, the area hosts both commercial and hobby farmers offering a mix of 50/50 small and large animals. The large animal component consists of horses, dairy and beef cattle and a growing number of camels. Large animal veterinary work is performed mostly on-farm but there also outpatient facilities available at the practice.

The UQ VETS Clinical Studies Centre facilitates and provides support to pre-clinical and clinical training in companion animals as well as a renowned research hub for clinical and behavioural research. The Centre includes a 16 – table surgical teaching facility, and is also used for veterinary continuing education events. The Clinical Studies Centre is also home to the School’s Pets-for-Life Adoption Program.

UQ staff also supervise clinical placements at the RSPCA’s Brisbane Animal Care Campus, Wacol.

Information about the Faculty and the School may be accessed on the Faculty’s web site at http://www.uq.edu.au/vetschool/.

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

The University of Queensland Enterprise Agreement outlines the position classification standards for HEW Levels 1-10.

DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

The Veterinary Technician works within the Clinical Studies Centre and assists in the co-ordination of the Teaching Lab. The incumbent will provide operational/technical assistance and instructional support to undergraduate practical teaching and continuing education workshops and seminars. The position also has responsibility for the daily care and welfare of teaching and research animals and for the collection of animals from City Council pounds.

The Veterinary Technician will also be heavily involved in the School’s Pets-for-Life Animal Adoption Program.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Support the co-ordination of the Teaching Lab located within the Clinical Studies Centre; including bookings, inventory, stock rotation and ordering as well as daily maintenance;
- Provide high quality medical and surgical nursing including the monitoring of anaesthesia and post operative care;
- Carry out basic laboratory procedures (blood collection, analysis, etc);
- Prepare necessary equipment (tranquilisers, needles, etc) for use at the City Council pounds;
- Drive in a University vehicle to the City Council pounds for animal collection;
- Assist with animal euthanasia;
- Assist in the preparation of practical teaching classes for undergraduate students;
- Attend teaching classes and practical surgery when required;
- Assist in the maintenance of the Veterinary School Animal Adoption Program (including conducting temperament assessments, screening potential adopters and advertising available animals);
- Order stock and keep an up-to-date inventory;
- Work with or liaise with kennel staff regarding the feeding and exercise of animals and provide assistance when necessary;
- Work with or liaise with academic staff as required;
- Undertake library searches, photocopying and filing;
- Provide assistance to postgraduate students as required;
- Other duties as directed.

Other
Ensure you are aware of and comply with legislation and University policy relevant to the duties undertaken, including:
- 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 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 Manager, Clinical Studies Centre.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential
- Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing and/or Bachelor degree in Veterinary Technology
- At least 4 years of related work experience.
- Knowledge and experience in the husbandry, handling, restraint and care of animals, especially dogs, cats, birds, horses, pigs and sheep;
- Experience in working with and handling animals in a laboratory/technical field;
- Knowledge and experience in companion animal behaviour;
- Knowledge and experience in medical and surgical nursing;
- Knowledge of the relevant codes and acts governing the use of animals in research and teaching;
- Ability to keep accurate records;
- Computer literacy in software applications for word processing, databases, spreadsheets and email;
- An affinity for, and experience in handling animals, with a commitment to animal welfare;
• Highly effective interpersonal skills, including the ability to work as a team member and establish cooperative working relationships with colleagues, staff across the University, students and external clients;
• High level of organisational skills, including the ability to prioritise competing work demands independently and an ability to initiate improvements in work practices;
• Current open drivers licence.

Desirable
• Ability to tow a horse/dog float.

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.

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