POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Research Fellow
Organisation Unit: Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation
Position Number: 3042006
Type of Employment: Full-time, fixed term for 3 years
Classification: Level B. Level of appointment will be commensurate with qualification and experience.

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 well within the top 100 universities worldwide, measured through a number of major independent university rankings: the Academic Ranking of World Universities, Times Higher Education World University Rankings, US News Best Global Universities Rankings, QS World University Rankings and Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities, and is indeed in the top 50 in some of these rankings. In 2013, UQ attracted more Australian Research Council funding than any other Australian university or research body.

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 Australian Teaching and Learning Council Awards for Teaching Excellence 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, and a founding member of Universitas 21, an international consortium of leading research-intensive universities. UQ is also the largest university in Queensland.

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 215,000-plus alumni. The University has more than 7,000 academic and professional staff and a $1.6 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.

Organisational Environment

The Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI) is a unique research institute in Australia as it is a jointly funded initiative of UQ and Agri-Science Queensland and Biosecurity Queensland, part of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF). QAAFI conducts research and development to benefit the food and fibre sector both nationally and internationally.

The Institute’s strengths are reflected in its three research centres – the Centre for Plant Science, the Centre for Animal Science and the Centre for Nutrition and Food Sciences. QAAFI brings together scientists from UQ and DAF to conduct high-end science that delivers higher impact outcomes for industry and the community.

Details of the research interests of the Institute may be accessed on the Institute’s web site at http://www.qaafi.uq.edu.au

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 Levels A to E.

DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

To develop and implement new approaches for genomic prediction and gene discovery models for large genomic and phenotype data sets in combination with reproductive strategies to reduce breeding cycles, in order to accelerate the rate of improvement in key agricultural traits across a number of species.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Application of new and emerging genomic technologies to the livestock industries, including assembly of relevant genomes with long read technologies, annotation of genomes, and gene expression, microbiome and metabolite profiling.
- Work in collaboration with industry scientists on projects targeting implementation of these technologies in livestock species.
- Manage projects, including milestone reporting to funding bodies and budgeting.
- Conduct research and publish scholarly papers,
- Foster QAAFI’s relations with industry, government departments, professional bodies and the wider community,
• As a ‘Research focussed’ position there is no formal requirement for undergraduate teaching. However it is encouraged that you actively seek teaching opportunities,
• Participate in events to attract postgraduate students to the Institute.
• Any other duties as reasonably directed by your supervisor
• Supervision of honours and postgraduate students.

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 Principal Research Fellow.
SELECTION CRITERIA

**Essential**

- PhD in an area related to genetic improvement in agricultural species with significant research experience,
- Demonstrated expert knowledge in the area of genome assembly, genome annotation, including development of new strategies
- Demonstrated expert knowledge in phenotype prediction from microbiome and genomic information.
- Evidence of ability to manage projects to meet milestones
- An ability to establish effective relationships and to represent and promote genetic improvement at a university and wider community level, including industry, government and professional bodies,
- Evidence of a contribution to research, including scholarly publications commensurate with experience,
- Ability to write clearly and succinctly in a variety of communication styles,
- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues.
- Demonstrated contribution to the effective supervision of Honours and Research Higher Degree students.

**Desirable**

- A background in development of new statistical methodologies for future phenotype prediction from microbiome, metabolite and genomic information.

**For appointment at level B**

- Ability to successfully lead a small research team to deliver outputs to industry,
- Experience in liaising and collaborating with external agencies in undertaking cooperative research initiatives.

The University of Queensland is committed to equity, diversity and inclusion.