POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Research Fellow
Organisation Unit: Centre for Horticultural Science, QAAFI
Position Number: 3042117
Type of Employment: Fixed-Term for 5 years – Full time
Classification: Research Academic Level B

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 Centre for Horticultural Science is part of the Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, a partnership between UQ and the Queensland Government. QAAFI conducts research and development to benefit the food and fibre sector both nationally and internationally.

Within, QAAFI, The Centre aims to build upon the capacity of our world-class horticultural researchers to develop Australia’s global horticultural presence. The Centre’s collaborative approach is reflected in its many achievements, including; the world’s best banana biosecurity practice, the development of BioClay - a non-toxic agricultural nanotechnology pesticide, the release of new macadamia cultivars, the innovative Queensland Government Small Trees High Productivity project, avocado disease and propagation innovations and, the development of a low chill stone fruit industry in sub-tropical Queensland.

Details of the research interests of the Institute may be accessed on the Institute’s web site at [http://www.qaafi.uq.edu.au](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-ug](http://www.uq.edu.au/current-staff/working-at-ug)

The University of Queensland Enterprise Agreement outlines the position classification standards for Levels A to E.

DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

To engage, as a Research Fellow, in research for industry outcomes, postgraduate teaching and supervision, and further development of the Institute’s research programs, as well as performing administrative and other activities associated with the Institute and its Centres.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

**Research**

- Engage in independent and/or team research program including external funding, and achieve national recognition in the research area.
- Conduct research and publish scholarly papers in high quality outlets.
- Develop an ongoing program of discovery, applied and contract research in the area of horticultural crops propagation, genomics and molecular physiology.
- Contribute intellectually to other projects in the group.
- Present Research Findings at Scientific and Industry forums.
**Teaching and Learning**

- 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.
- Contribute to supervision of honours and postgraduate students.

**Industry Liaison**

- Represent the University in industry or funding body forums.
- Develop and deliver original presentations to Industry.
- Write reports for Industry and advise on significant Industry issues.
- Produce and deliver educational material for Industry.
- Develop and maintain a relevant industry network.

**Service and Engagement**

- Perform a range of administrative functions in the Institute.
- Contribute to the processes that enable the academic team to manage the work of the Institute, including participation in Institute and Centre decision-making and serving on Institute committees.
- Foster the Institute’s relations with industry, government departments, professional bodies and the wider community.
- Any other duties as reasonably directed by your supervisor.
- Please refer to the [Criteria for Academic Performance](#).

**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 Centre Director, or their delegate.
SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- PhD in Plant molecular biology, with at least 5 years postdoctoral experience,
- Demonstrated expert knowledge in the area of plant molecular biology with specific expertise in molecular physiology, genomics, propagation and tissue culture, with extension to additional horticultural crops,
- Evidence of ability to successfully attract external funding and prepare grant applications,
- An ability to establish effective relationships and to represent and promote the research theme at a university and wider community level, including industry, government and professional bodies,
- Established record of publication or exhibition in high-quality outlets,
- Evidence of effective supervision of Honours and Research Higher Degree students,
- Developed industry liaisons and professional contacts,
- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues in a strong team setting at both the local and international level,
- Evidence of extension or outreach activities to benefit the workplace and community.

Desired

- Demonstrated understanding of domestic and global tree crop industry needs in research, and relevant funding and industry bodies.
- Specific experience in avocado genomics and propagation.

Qualification Verification

An appointment to this position is subject to the verification of the highest academic qualification from the conferring institution.

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

Employment opportunities are not limited by race, ethnicity, religion, disability, age, sexuality, gender or other protected attributes. Applications are encourages from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. For further information please contact our indigenous Employment Coordinator at: atsi_recruitment@uq.edu.au