POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Senior Biometrician Consultant
Organisation Unit: School of Agriculture and Food Sciences
Type of Employment: Full time, continuing
Classification: Hwe Level 8

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.

Organisational Environment

The School of Agriculture and Food Sciences is one of the largest Schools of this type in Australia, comprising research and teaching experts in agribusiness and the science disciplines of animals and wildlife, plants and soil sciences, food and nutrition science. With nearly 350 staff, 300 higher degree research students and over $33 million in operating and research income, the School has helped UQ to become recognised as one of the top 50 universities in the world for Life and Agriculture Sciences, and the leading agriculture university in Australia.

Located at St Lucia and Gatton, the School is a large and dynamic multidisciplinary hub focused on applied research and teaching within the Faculty of Science committed to finding innovative and technology focussed solutions to global challenges. The School offers a range of undergraduate postgraduate coursework and research degrees encompassing agriculture and related disciplines ranging from Bachelor Degree to Doctorate.

With a diverse group of internationally regarded scientists, the School hosts six research concentrations, of which three are aligned with the Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation – a joint initiative between The University of Queensland and the Queensland State Government. Quality laboratories and facilities and strong partnerships with industry, community and government bodies, provide an environment that enables world class research and research training in a collaborative and cooperative spirit for postgraduate students and researchers.

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

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

DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

The Senior Biometrician Consultant provides a specialist statistical advisory service to postgraduate students, academic and research staff in the School. This role will be expected to provide leadership in the design and introduction of statistical concepts and systems for the support of research and will be expected to provide statistical training for postgraduate students and support undergraduate statistical teaching.
Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Providing expertise on statistical protocol relating to matters such as experimental design and survey design.
- Conducting analyses of the pooled data in collaboration with project investigators
- Providing expert advice to clients on the choice of appropriate statistical methodology, including advising and assisting clients with the choice and operation of statistical software
- Providing guidance on the transmission of statistical ideas, statistical methods, results, figures and tables in theses, papers and presentations.
- Contribute to designing, organizing, scheduling and managing training programs to support other staff and students in
  - analysis of the project’s pooled datasets
  - application of specific statistical methodologies
- Providing advice on data recording and management protocols to facilitate subsequent statistical analysis
- Assist with the design, delivery and review of undergraduate teaching material.
- 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 academic staff for Biometrics, School of Agriculture and Food Sciences. Some liaison with the Deputy School Manager would be expected.
SELECTION CRITERIA

**Essential**

- Completion of a postgraduate degree in Science, Environmental Science, or Agricultural Science with extensive training and significant experience in Biometrics/Applied Statistics.
- Extensive knowledge of the statistical procedures involved in the design and analysis of experiments in scientific areas, preferably in Agriculture, Environmental and Food Sciences.
- Demonstrated knowledge, understanding and experience in using a range of statistical packages, particularly R, SAS, STATA, SPSS and Minitab.
- Experience in organizing and administering training workshops and short courses for non-statisticians.
- Ability to work with diverse range of clients autonomously, multi-task, take initiatives and manage time efficiently with minimal direct supervision whilst meeting deadlines within a busy work environment.
- Excellent interpersonal skills including the ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing, and to work collaboratively with colleagues in the workplace.
- Sound knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite, particularly related to data collection and management (Access and Excel).
- Ability to work professionally and with integrity in a team environment.

**Desirable**

- Possession of (or eligibility for) professional accreditation as a Statistician (AStat or equivalent).
- Knowledge of principles of database management.
- Experience in assisting with teaching and preparation of undergraduate practical classes and providing support to research based statistical applications/interpretation of data.

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.