POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Postdoctoral Research Fellow/Research Fellow
Organisational Unit: School of Psychology
Position Number: New
Type of Employment: Full time, fixed term until 30 June 2019
Classification: Academic Research Level A or 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 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 (60). 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 $11 billion+ (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 Health and Behavioural Sciences

The Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences is a strong faculty that has a coherent focus on health and well-being underpinned by a clear integrative theme related to preventative health and behaviour change. Furthermore, the Faculty provides the opportunity for the allied health sciences to have a strong voice and greater visibility within the University.

The Faculty currently includes six schools and 3 research centres:

- School of Dentistry
- School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
- School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences
- School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work
- School of Pharmacy
- School of Psychology
- Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research
- RECOVER Injury Research Centre
- Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences (QAEHS)

More information about the Faculty is available at: http://habs.uq.edu.au/

Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research

The Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research (CYSAR) was established in 2008 through the shared vision of the Graeme Wood Foundation and The University of Queensland. CYSAR seeks to promote the health and well-being of young people by increasing Australia’s capacity to respond effectively to the harm associated with alcohol, tobacco, and other drug misuse. CYSAR aims to:

- Understand the pathways by which young people engage in substance misuse;
- Be at the cutting edge of research into new and innovative ways of preventing and treating substance misuse among young people;
- Make significant and tangible improvements to youth service provision;
- Positively influence state and national approaches to youth substance misuse prevention and treatment through information dissemination, policy refinement and public
• Ensure youth have a voice and input into the research directions of the Centre.

CYSAR partnerships have made it possible to draw together the research and clinical expertise of internationally regarded Australian scholars in the field of substance use disorders. CYSAR’s partner organisations are:

• Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences, The University of Queensland; and,
• The Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation, Queensland University of Technology

School of Psychology

The School of Psychology is one of the most prestigious schools of psychology in Australia, and its strong reputation is built on excellence in both research and teaching. The School has thriving and dynamic research profiles in almost all areas of psychology, and is able to attract visitors from overseas and other institutions in Australia. It possesses good links, often through cross-appointed staff, with other schools in the University, thus creating opportunities for interdisciplinary collaborative research.

Details of the research interests of academic staff may be accessed on the School’s web site at www.psy.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

The role of the Postdoctoral Research Fellow is to conduct a series of projects on youth substance use funded by the Department of Health, as part of the Lives Lived Well (LLW) Team in the Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research (CYSAR), as well as other research relevant to addiction and comorbid mental health.

These projects include
- A large-scale implementation trial which will determine the effectiveness of an early intervention program for young people who have experienced alcohol and other drug-related harm.
- A wave randomized trial to determine the efficacy of a group-based wellbeing program for individuals attending residential rehabilitation for substance dependence.
- A randomized controlled trial of a web-based program for psychotic-like experiences in cannabis users.

This position is expected to supervise or co-supervise research students in relevant areas, and to apply for both independent and collaborative funding relevant to the research focus.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Research

- Actively conduct high quality research on youth substance use and/or comorbid mental health issues.
- Collaborate with the LLW team in the management of research and consultancy projects on a day-to-day basis, including literature reviews; research design; management of ethics applications and approvals; data analysis and interpretation; preparation of manuscripts and reports.
- Assist with the coordination, management and conduct of research projects, including field work and data entry, to ensure that milestones and progress reviews are completed to required level, and within agreed timeframes and budget.
- Engage with The University of Queensland stakeholders, industry partners and other organisations to develop and deliver collaborative projects.
- Actively pursue external research funding by identifying and preparing funding applications for competitive national, international, and industry funding schemes. A Level A academic will participate in applications for external research funding, and work with a higher level of supervision and guidance from senior academic staff members.
- Contribute to the preparation of evidence-based materials for the public and professionals.
- Prepare and present high quality presentations for a range of audiences (e.g., academic, clinical, general community).
- Supervise research clinical psychologists in the delivery of interventions as part of clinical trials and participate in the delivery of interventions (as needed).
• Contribute to supervision and training of Honours and RHD students undertaking studies in related research fields, as required.
• Contribute to the effective supervision of professional research staff undertaking duties relevant to the research process and management of the research projects.

Service and Engagement

Undertake administrative tasks related to the day-to-day running of research projects.

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 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 Professor Leanne Hides, School of Psychology.
SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

• A PhD (or nearing completion for Level A) in Psychology or a related field.
• Clinical postgraduate qualifications in Psychology or a related field.
• Supervisor Training and Approved Program (STAP), board-approved supervisor with the Psychology Board of Australia
• Demonstrated proficiency carrying out literature reviews within academic databases.
• At Level A, a developing track record in research publications in national and international journals.
• At Level B, an established track record in research publications in national and international journals.
• At level B, experience in preparation and submission of research funding applications.
• Demonstrated ability to connect and collaborate with colleagues, and to present research findings as evidenced by presentations at conferences or other venues.
• Supervise research clinical psychologists in the delivery of interventions as part of clinical trials and participate in the delivery of interventions (as needed).
• Demonstrated expertise in statistical analysis and database management, and a willingness to learn new statistical and data management techniques.
• Strong organisational skills, including the ability to prioritise a range of tasks and meet deadlines.
• Commitment to research participant confidentiality and research ethics, particularly with respect to identified or potentially identifiable participant data of a sensitive nature.
• An ability to work both independently and collaboratively as part of a team.

Desirable

• Clinical and research experience in the substance use and/or comorbid mental health issues.
• At level A, the capacity to attract grant funding.

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 values diversity and inclusion.

Applications are particularly encouraged from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. For further information please contact our Australian Indigenous Employment Coordinator at: atsi_recruitment@uq.edu.au
Applications are also encouraged from women.
This role is a full-time position; however flexible working arrangements may be negotiated.