POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Postdoctoral Research Fellow (2 positions available)
Organisation Unit: Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology
Position Number: 3040199
Type of Employment: Full time, fixed term
Classification: Research Academic Level A

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 University of Queensland's Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (AIBN) is a dynamic multi-disciplinary research institute dedicated to developing technology to alleviate societal problems in the areas of health, energy, manufacturing and environmental sustainability. AIBN brings together the skills of more than 450 world-class researchers complimented by an extensive suite of integrated facilities, working at the intersection of biology, chemistry, engineering and computer modelling. With a reputation for delivering translational science, AIBN conducts research at the forefront of emerging technologies, and has developed strong collaborations with leading members of industry, academia and government. AIBN goes beyond basic research to develop the growth of innovative industries for the benefit of the Queensland and Australian economies. Information about the Institute can be accessed on the Institute’s web site at http://www.aibn.uq.edu.au/.

AIBN is committed to supporting the career growth of female researchers and have a number of initiatives to support females in developing and achieving a fulfilling research career at the institute. For more information, please visit our AIBN Women in Science web site at http://www.aibn.uq.edu.au/women.

**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](http://www.uq.edu.au/current-staff/working-at-uq) outlines the position classification standards for Levels A to E.

**DUTY STATEMENT**

**Primary Purpose of Positions**

There are two Postdoctoral Research Fellow positions available:

**Project 1** - Independently drive a research project that employs human pluripotent stem cell derived neuronal cell types to study the link between L1 retrotransposons and neuropathology such as Schizophrenia.

**Project 2** - Independently drive a research project that employs human pluripotent stem cell derived neuronal cell types to study the link between DNA double stand breaks and neuropathology in Ataxia-Telangiectasia.
Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Research
- Generation, culture, and differentiation of human induced pluripotent stem cells into a variety of neuronal cell types
- Deploy standard and advanced CRISPR based genome manipulation in human iPSC
- Establish and develop microscopy based and functional analyses of in vitro derived neuronal cell types, including optogenetics
- Provide written and verbal reports (inclusive of manuscript submissions) on outputs associated with the project, inclusive of associated data analyses
- Assist in the supervision and training of research higher degree students
- Maintain absolute confidentiality regarding the results of the project where appropriate and when requested
- Assist in the preparation of grant and fellowship applications
- Conduct research and publish scholarly papers
- Work as an integral part of the Wolvetang laboratory team

Service and Engagement
- Foster the Institute's relations with industry, government departments, professional bodies and the wider community.
- Contribute to the processes that enable the academic team to manage the work of the research group, including participate in decision-making and serve on Institute (AIBN) committees.
- 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 positions report to Professor Ernst Wolvetang.
SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential
- PhD in the area of molecular and/or stem cell biology
- High quality and sustained publication output
- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues

Project 1
- Demonstrated expert knowledge in the area of stem cell culture, neuronal differentiation, high content image analysis, and CRISPR genome editing

Project 2
- Demonstrated expert knowledge in the area of stem cell culture, neuronal differentiation and analysis, optogenetics, fluorescence microscopy and high content image analysis.

Desirable
- Experience in cell-based high content automated screening, RNAi-based knock down techniques, CHIPseq
- Experience in bioinformatics

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 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.