POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Senior Research Fellow – Exploration and Mining Geology
Organisation Unit: WH Bryan Mining and Geology Research Centre (BRC)
Position Number: 3027853
Type of Employment: Full-time appointment for a fixed term of 2 years
Classification: Research Academic Level C

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 $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

Sustainable Minerals Institute

One of UQ’s eight research institutes, the Sustainable Minerals Institute (SMI) consists of some 400 staff and postgraduate students covering the areas of mining and geology, mineral processing, environment and rehabilitation, social responsibility, safety and risk, water and unconventional gas. SMI is industry-focused and consequently works with many leading global resources companies and many small-medium enterprises and suppliers. SMI interacts strongly with governments and community. A priority for SMI is the development of talent and providing an environment for successful and rewarding careers.

SMI was founded in 2001 and since its inception has established a reputation as a unique institution for integrated sustainable development research in the resource sector. SMI is a truly global institute with staff and students from around the world. SMI’s people are also diverse in their discipline backgrounds, which range across disciplines including anthropology, geology, soil science, sociology, hydrology, environmental science, engineering and mine management.

Information about the Institute may be accessed on the Institute’s web site at http://www.uq.edu.au/smi

The W.H. Bryan Mining and Geology Research Centre (BRC) is one of the seven centres of the SMI and was established in 1991. SMI-BRC is known for practical innovation in mass mining and global leadership in deep mine development and operation. It has three complimentary applied research programmes that draw on expertise in geological and mining processes to target more accurate performance predictions for higher capacity mining, quantitative modelling of orebodies including variability and uncertainty for informed decision-making; achieving greater productivity from current mine to mill operations; and growing institutional capabilities in resource stewardship and advancing the discovery of deep, large ore bodies.

Information about the Centre may be accessed on their web site at http://www.brc.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

Develop, manage and undertake a lead research role in exploration and mining geology and geometallurgy within BRC’s research programs that work together and with other SMI Centres to provide an integrated understanding of the mining value chain. The successful candidate will be expected to conceive and implement research that takes into account the development agenda as set by the BRC including aspects of innovative mining based on enhanced deposit knowledge. This is by augmenting geoscientific data and knowledge input into all stages of discovery to recovery, including mine planning, development, mineral processing and effective operations. The focus is on better management of geological and engineering risks and ultimately better resource stewardship.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Research

- Maintain and develop research expertise in the discipline of the assigned research projects within the area of mining geology and geometallurgy
- Undertake research individually or as part of a project team
- Take responsibility for planning and implementing world-class research projects
- Liaise with project sponsors and conduct experimental work at field sites
- Prepare research reports and presentations for sponsors
- Assist in the development of new research initiatives following on from the projects, and lead the development of new initiatives in some instances
- Provide guidance and assistance to other staff and students
- Publish the results of research in international journals, other appropriate refereed publications and conferences

Management

- Manage research projects to deliver projects on time and within budget
- Mentor and assist in the career development of staff and students reporting to this position
- Coordinate research activities in collaborative projects with other research institutions
- Manage the relationships with industry sponsors; develop a network within the minerals industry to support research initiation, carriage of projects and transfer/uptake of outcomes

Teaching and Learning

- Supervise postgraduate students
- Be part of a team that may be required to develop industry training courses
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 Program Leader – Geology

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- PhD in a research field relevant to exploration and mining geology
- Demonstrated high level knowledge in applied geoscience and experience in addressing geological and engineering questions relevant to the minerals sector
- At least 5 years’ industry experience at a site level (e.g. analysing and interpreting exploration and mine site geoscientific data; production control; mine mapping; geometallurgical studies)
- Excellent research management skills
- Ability to conceptualise, develop and critically review new research initiatives
- Innovative, with a strong desire to conduct applied research
- Evidence of leadership of significant projects relevant to mining and exploration with the ability to motivate a group of high calibre research staff and postgraduate students
- Experience in applied research in the mining industry

Desirable

- Experience in liaising and collaborating with research groups or external organisations to develop co-operative research initiatives
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.