POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Research Fellow
Organisation Unit: School of Civil Engineering
Position Number: NEW
Type of Employment: Full-Time, Fixed Term for 18 months
Classification: 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 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

The School of Civil Engineering is one of the largest schools of its kind in Australia. Located in the state-of-the-art, $135 million Advanced Engineering Building, the School passionately delivers world-leading teaching, research, and service. We aspire to be the civil engineering school of choice for students, staff, industry, and the wider community in the fields of water, environmental, geotechnical, structural and transportation engineering.

Our goal is to foster graduates with the technical and professional skills required to lead the civil engineering profession and we aim to re-engineer civil and environmental research to improve the way communities operate and function.

Our academic staff hail from over 24 countries, are widely published and cited, and have extensive research backgrounds in diverse engineering disciplines including coastal, environmental, fire safety, geotechnical, hydraulics, structural, transport, and water resources. These research strengths attract expert academics and students from around the world and provide industry with consulting expertise, research collaboration and testing facilities.

The School recognises and values equity and diversity, and encourages applications from any individual who meets the requirements of this position irrespective of gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, religion, disability, age or other protected attributes. The School strives to provide an inclusive working environment, and along with the University is committed to supporting staff with family and caring responsibilities by providing policies, programs and initiatives to help balance work and family responsibilities.

For more information about the School, please visit: www.civil.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 primary purpose of the position is to lead the coordination and testing activities of the research project ‘Material Library of Cladding Materials’ at the Fire Safety Engineering Research group (UQ Fire), a project funded by the Department of Housing and Public Works from the Queensland Government. You will oversee the development and management of all activities related to the Cladding Material Library, liaise with the Queensland Government, disseminate the outcomes of the project, and coordinate next editions of the Continuing Professional Development course aligned with this research project. You will supervise the team formed to deliver this project. The position will also involve manuscript writing and occasional administrative support duties as directed by UQ Fire. You will expand the research in the area of fire safety of building façades.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Research
- Coordinate, supervise and lead the research project ‘Material Library of Cladding Materials’
- Develop testing protocols and maintain the Material Library
- Conduct research in the area of fire safety of building façade systems
- Publish scholarly papers related to this research area
- Expand the research programme including external funding
- Work with colleagues and postgraduates in the development of joint further research projects
- Contribute to the effective supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate students

Service and Engagement
- Perform a range of administrative functions in the Fire Safety Engineering Research group (UQ Fire)
- Contribute to the processes that enable the academic team to manage the work of UQ Fire, including participation in staff team meetings, decision-making and committees
- Foster the UQ Fire and School’s relations with industry, government departments, professional bodies and the wider community
- 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 Lecturer in Timber Engineering.
SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- PhD in the area of Fire Safety Engineering
- Demonstrated expert knowledge in material flammability and fire safe design of buildings
- Demonstrated expert knowledge in fire testing and material characterisation equipment
- Evidence of significant experience in fire laboratory testing
- Evidence of a contribution to research, including successful external grant applications
- Established track record of publication in high quality journals and national recognition in the area of research.
- Developed industry liaisons and professional contacts
- An ability to establish effective relationships and to represent and promote academic discipline at a university and wider community level, including industry, government and professional bodies.
- Demonstrated teaching skills at undergraduate and postgraduate levels
- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with colleagues, administrative, and technical staff.
- Demonstrated high level interpersonal, written and verbal communication skills.
- Demonstrated ability to prioritise own workload, work independently and meet deadlines.

Desirable

- Developed research in fire safety of façade systems and materials
- Demonstrated expert knowledge in the area of fire safety of façade systems and materials

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 part-time, fixed-term 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.