POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Associate Professor/Professor of Biotechnology
Organisation Unit: School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences
Position Number: 
Type of Employment: Full-time, Continuing
Classification: Teaching and Research Academic Level D or E

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 well within the top 100 universities worldwide, measured through a number of major independent university rankings: the Academic Ranking of World Universities, Times Higher Education World University Rankings, US News Best Global Universities Rankings, QS World University Rankings and Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities, and is indeed in the top 50 in some of these rankings. Over the past 3 years for which audited data are available UQ has attracted the highest (2013) or second highest (2012, 2014) amount of research funding of any Australian university.

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 Australian Teaching and Learning Council Awards for Teaching Excellence 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. UQ is also the largest university in Queensland.

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 230,000-plus alumni. The University has more than 7,000 academic and professional staff and a $1.7 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, biotechnology, bioengineering and nanotechnology, as well as social science research.

Organisational Environment

The Faculty of Science is an internationally recognised provider of world-class education and research. A research-intensive Faculty, with a gross budget in excess of $300M, it employs approximately 1,500 continuing and fixed-term staff and teaches around 6,000 full-time equivalent coursework students (EFTSL).

The Faculty teaches agriculture, biology, biochemistry, chemistry, earth sciences, food science, geography, marine science, mathematics, microbiology, physics, planning, both environmental sciences and management, and veterinary science to undergraduate and postgraduate coursework students enrolled in a range of degree programs including science, engineering, health and medicine. The Faculty provides the community with the next generation of professionals and graduates who are sufficiently scientifically literate and numerate to be effective in understanding, managing and addressing complex problems, including those in energy, food supply, health, environment and sustainability.

Research conducted in the Faculty of Science includes fundamental research across a wide range of scientific disciplines and a vibrant portfolio of applied research, well linked to industry and government, particularly in its areas of Agriculture and Food Sciences, Geography and Earth Sciences, Ecology and Environment, and Veterinary Sciences.

The Faculty comprises six Schools: Biological Sciences, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Agriculture and Food Science, Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences, Mathematics and Physics, and Veterinary Science.

The School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences (SCMB) is one of the largest and most successful schools in the Faculty of Science, with a multidisciplinary approach to teaching and research that encompasses the disciplines of Chemistry, Biotechnology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and Microbiology. The School is home to more than 60 continuing academic staff, around 100 research staff, 24 administrative officers, 28 technical staff, 250 postgraduate coursework students and 200 higher degree by research students. The School also hosts a number of research centres, including the Centre for Organic Photonics and Electronics, the Australian Infectious Diseases Research Centre, the Australian Centre for Ecogenomics Research and the Centre for Metals in Biology.

SCMB academic staff members have an outstanding track record of attracting competitive ARC and NH&MRC Project, Program and Fellowship funding and have a robust and growing engagement with industry. The School is well equipped for contemporary Chemistry, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Microbiology research, and is supported by the University’s outstanding major research infrastructure (including The Centre for Advanced Imaging (NMR and EPR) and The Centre for Microscopy and Microanalysis). It has an excellent record in attracting ARC LIEF funding for major research equipment.

SCMB teaches into several undergraduate programs including the BSc, BBiotech, BBiomedSc, BEng and MD (Medicine), postgraduate coursework programs, including MBiotech, MMolBiol and MBioinf, and higher degrees by research, including PhD and MPhil.

Further information and details of the research interests of academic staff may be accessed on the school’s web site at http://www.scmb.uq.edu.au/
The quality and breadth of SCMB's Biotechnology Program has recently been recognised with a ranking of best in Australia and 7th globally for Biotechnology in the prestigious Shanghai Global Ranking of Academic Subjects for 2017.

The UQ Biotechnology Program is a collaborative, transdisciplinary program drawing on expertise from several University faculties, institutes, government agencies and local industry. The program allows students to examine microorganisms, plants and animals in the context of the discovery, understanding, improvement and development of viable products or processes. A number of the majors in the Bachelor of Biotechnology degree program are accredited by the Royal Australian Chemical Institute for their substantial chemistry content and include Chemical Biotechnology, Nanotechnology, and Drug Design & Development. The Master of Biotechnology program had been recognised by the U. S. Council of Graduate Schools as an affiliated Professional Science Masters program. This recognition is conferred upon degree programs which allow students to pursue advanced training in science, while simultaneously developing workplace skills highly valued by employers.

The Doctor of Biotechnology program (DBiotech) is designed to train scientists in the application of principles of management, to develop an understanding of management issues for research enterprises and technology ventures and the integration of specialist training in the area of biotechnology and research. It is an Australian Qualifications Framework Level 10 qualification equivalent to the PhD.

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](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 position will provide leadership in teaching undergraduate and postgraduate coursework programs, postgraduate research supervision, and further development and promotion of the School's Biotechnology program.

The position will provide leadership in research in areas relevant to the School and University, and foster the development of a discovery and innovation culture within the School.

The position will also make outstanding leadership contributions to the governance and collegial life of the institution, and provide a high level of service and engagement in external activities at a national and international level.

**Duties**

Duties and responsibilities will align with the [Criteria for Academic Performance](http://www.uq.edu.au/current-staff/working-at-uq) for a Level D/E Teaching and Research academic and will include:
Teaching and Learning

- Lead, develop, innovate, coordinate and teach undergraduate and postgraduate courses in the Biotechnology program and other programs.
- Lead the development of Biotechnology programs.
- Supervise and provide leadership to students at honours and postgraduate level.

Research

- Lead an independent research program in biotechnology that is relevant to the strategic directions of the School, and supported by external research funding.
- Communicate research outcomes through publications in refereed journals, as well as at conferences and workshops.
- Encourage, initiate and coordinate collaborative biotechnology related research across School, University, national and international levels.

Industry Liaison

- Develop and maintain significant networks across industries and foster an environment where networks and relationships are built and maintained.
- Collaborate with industry in teaching and research, including development of publications, reports and applications for funding.

Service and Engagement

- Make a strong contribution to the governance of the School, including mentoring less experienced staff.
- Enhance the international reputation of Biotechnology at UQ and participate in events to attract undergraduate and postgraduate students to the School.
- Work with the Head of School to shape the School’s strategic research agenda.

Other

Ensure you are aware of and comply with legislation and University policy relevant to the duties undertaken, including:

- 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 the Head of School.

Selection Criteria

- PhD, or equivalent, in the area related to Biotechnology.
- Demonstrated outstanding academic achievement and international reputation in the area of Biotechnology.
- A proven commitment to excellence and innovation in teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.
- Demonstrated ability to mentor less experienced staff and postgraduate students to successful career outcomes.
- A strong record of leadership in an academic context.
- Demonstrated ability to establish and maintain positive relationships and to represent and promote Biotechnology at a university and wider community level, including industry, government and international industry and professional bodies.
- Highly developed interpersonal, communication and people management skills, and a track record of leading, motivating, and successfully managing multidisciplinary teams.

Seminar

Applicants invited for interview will be required to present a seminar in conjunction with the selection interview process.

Qualification Verification

An appointment to this position is subject to the verification of the highest academic qualification from the conferring institution.

UQ 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 for further information and points of contact if you require additional support. Accessibility requirements and/or adjustments can be directed to Louise Smith on email science.hr@uq.edu.au

Applications are particularly encouraged from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Applications are also encouraged from women.

This role is a full-time position; however flexible working arrangements may be negotiated.