POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Project Officer
Organisation Unit: Rural Clinical School
Position Number: NEW
Type of Employment: Part time (0.5FTE), Fixed term appointment
Classification: Hew Level 7

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.

Faculty of Medicine

The University of Queensland’s Faculty of Medicine is an internationally recognised provider of world-class education and research. The research-intensive Faculty has a gross budget of almost $300 million, employs approximately 1000 continuing and fixed-term staff (headcount), has a community of more than 4000 non-salaried academic appointees and around 3200 students (headcount).

The Faculty of Medicine offers Australia’s largest medical degree program for graduates and school-leavers. Undergraduate and postgraduate programs are available in the disciplines of Medicine, Health Sciences, E-Health, Mental Health, Biomedical Sciences and Public Health.

The Faculty possesses enormous strengths spanning research, teaching, industry engagement and clinical practice in disciplines ranging from the basic sciences, biomedical research and development, to clinical trials and public health. Research projects within the Faculty have already led to discoveries with far-reaching social and economic impacts, including the revolutionary Gardasil (TM) vaccine for cervical cancer (Professor Ian Frazer) and a drug discovery EMA401 (Professor Maree Smith), a first-in-class oral treatment for chronic pain which through Spinaflex Pharmaceuticals led to Australia’s largest biotechnology commercialisation deal. Faculty staff include three highly cited authors, one Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS), three Fellows of the Australian Academy of Science (FAA) and 12 Fellows of the Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (AAHMS). The Faculty is a core member of Brisbane Diamantina Health Partners, the Brisbane-wide academic health science system.

Educational offerings in biomedical sciences, medicine and public health are informed and supported by research activity across a range of fundamental and clinical areas of importance including recognised strengths in cancer, skin diseases, brain and mental health, maternal and child health and genomics. Cutting-edge facilities such as the Herston Imaging Research Facility (HIRF), the UQ Centre for Clinical Research (UQCCR), our laboratories in the Translational Research Institute (TRI) and the new Centre for Children’s Health Research (CCHR) enable outstanding research outcomes and sharpen our understanding of cancer, autoimmunity, mental disorders, infectious diseases and neurological disease. Further details are available at www.medicine.uq.edu.au.

The University of Queensland Rural Clinical School

The University of Queensland Rural Clinical School (UQRCS) envisages securing a self-sustaining medical workforce for regional Queensland through excellence in medical education, research and community service. With a footprint encompassing the greater part of central and western regional Queensland, the School comprises four clinical sites – Rockhampton, Bundaberg, Hervey Bay and Toowoomba. Significant investment in people and training infrastructure at each site provides the operational focus for a network of smaller clinical training locations in host communities across the state. With a recurrent budget of up to $9 million per annum provided through the Australian Government’s Multidisciplinary Rural Health Training (MRHT) program and a capital works portfolio in excess of $20 million, UQRCS is a substantial enterprise.
The Clinical School is the rural base for the delivery of the UQ medical program. There is a long tradition of success working in partnership with healthcare systems and service providers to train senior (Phase 2) medical students. Each year, more than 500 medical students engage with the rural experience through a range of long term (1-2 years) placements or shorter term (4-16 weeks) learning opportunities.

The learner experience is characterised by real world, rich and authentic learning opportunities and extensive community involvement. In this regard, our work is informed by the Academic Discipline of Rural and Remote Medicine which is embedded in our education structure. UQRCS pursues the latest innovations in medical education and training. There is a focus on scenario-based training in purpose-built Simulated Learning Environments (SLE) together with Technology Enabled Learning (TEL). Our learning framework supports a more generalist, integrated approach to deliver well-trained, safe and work-ready interns to local training hospitals.

In partnership with the health system, the health care profession (including the Colleges) and education providers, UQRCS engages with every stage of the rural health learning continuum. The journey starts with learners of rural origin health care, progresses through undergraduate and pre-vocational training and culminates with contributions to vocational training and continuing professional development.

A rapidly expanding research profile focusses on clinical research, epidemiology/population health and rural health workforce. There is a significant component of Indigenous health research, particularly programs designed to translate and improve health outcomes amongst the Indigenous population. Research productivity is evidenced through a successful track record in attracting competitive funding from agencies such as the NHMRC and, in 2015, at least 51 peer-reviewed manuscripts published in journals varying from ‘Rural and Remote Health’ to ‘Nature Genetics’.

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)

DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

The primary purpose of the position is to provide project support to the UQ Rural Hub Project across the footprint of the specified Regional Training Hub. The position will work closely with an internal Regional Training Hub team, including academic and administrative staff, and key external partners and stakeholders aiming to improve the retention of medical graduates in rural and regional areas.

The three part-time positions will be located within the Central Queensland, Wide Bay and Southern Queensland Regional Training Hubs, ideally at either the Hub or Sub-Unit locations. These include:

- Central Queensland – Rockhampton, Gladstone or Emerald;
- Wide Bay – Bundaberg or Hervey Bay;
- Southern Queensland – Toowoomba or Charleville.
Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Duties

- Provide high level support to the Senior academic staff at the Regional Training Hub to advocate for and/or extend current Specialist Training Program (STP) posts in a number of specialties, including ongoing support of clinical supervisors and accrediting health services
- Undertake relevant project activities to assist in increasing awareness of career planning and mentorship programs for junior doctors, including performing audits of what currently exists, and working closely with academic staff to establish relevant services regarding recruitment, career planning and mentorship programs
- Provision of secretarial support to the local Regional Training Hub governance committees, including calling for membership, establishment of committees, meeting scheduling and minutes
- Identifying education and training needs for junior doctors relevant to rural practice, ensuring promotion of UQRCS events, and development and delivery of additional local education and training events in collaboration with training organisations and key stakeholders
- Convening regular local mentor/mentee events when program is established
- Liaising with key stakeholders as necessary during project start-up, planning, development and implementation phases, including the organisation and support for network meetings or associated project events at the local level
- Provision of project support to the Project Manager as required, including contributing to project reports and status updates
- 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 Project Manager, UQ Rural Hub Project.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- A degree in a health related discipline with at least four years subsequent relevant experience; or extensive experience and management expertise in technical or administrative fields; or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training
- Demonstrated project management experience and skills, including application of relevant project management tools, or equivalent practical methodologies, for managing issues and risks as well as monitoring, documenting and reporting all phases of projects' progress
- Demonstrated high level oral and written communication skills and presentation skills
- Excellent time management skills with the ability to manage competing priorities while still meeting deadlines, maintaining attention to detail and accuracy
- Strong interpersonal skills with the ability to work both collaboratively with colleagues and other internal and external stakeholders, as well as work autonomously to complete tasks as required
- Proficiency in relevant technologies, including MS Office Suite, and the capacity to take up new technologies if required to meet the needs of the role (i.e. communication technologies)

**Desirable**
- Experience in and a commitment to living and working in rural and/or regional Australia
- Knowledge of Tertiary Education sector business practices

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.

Accessibility requirements and/or adjustments can be directed to the contact person listed in the job advertisement.