POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Clinical Genomics Advisor
Organisation Unit: Queensland Genomics Health Alliance (QGHA), Office of the Deputy-Vice Chancellor (Research)
Position Number: 3039545
Type of Employment: Part Time, Fixed Term
Classification: HEW8

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 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 230,000-plus alumni. The University has about 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, 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://uniqest.com.au/our-track-record).

UQ has a rapidly growing record of attracting philanthropic support for its activities and will have further success in this area as an important strategic aim going forward.

Organisational Environment

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) is a member of the University’s Senior Executive and has responsibility for the development and advancement of the University’s profile in research and research training. This includes the strategic management of research at an institutional level; development of research policy; management of strategic research funding; development of research collaborations in Australia and overseas. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) also interacts closely with Executive Deans and Institute Directors who have operational responsibility for research development within the University’s Faculties and Institutes respectively, and chairs the University Research Committee, a committee of the Academic Board that promotes and supports research and research training within the University.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) is supported by the staff in the UQ Research and Innovation portfolio. Units within the portfolio have responsibility to support the University’s research community through strategic engagement with external stakeholders, funding organisations and research partners; international collaborations; grants management; research performance data management, contract negotiation; and research ethics and integrity.

Further information is available at: http://www.uq.edu.au/research.

Queensland Genomics Health Alliance

On the 22nd of September 2015, the Queensland State Government announced a $25m five-year commitment to research aimed at integrating genomics into everyday healthcare.

Potentially positioning Queensland as a world-leader in the translation of genomics research into healthcare practice, the Queensland Genomics Health Alliance (QGHA) will encourage collaboration within and between the state’s health system and research and academic communities to discover how genomics can improve health outcomes for Queenslanders.

With a charter to be patient-centred and clinically-led, The University of Queensland has been chosen to lead the QGHA, working collaboratively with all universities in the State, key Queensland-based research organisations, the Queensland Hospital and Health Services network, private health providers and associated health organisation throughout the State.

Further information is available at: http://www.qgha.org

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.
DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

The Genomics Advisor will provide ongoing strategic advice to the overall QGHA Program (including Clinical Demonstration Projects, Capability-building Workstreams, Community Representative Advisory Group project), in order to address the overall objectives and themes of the QGHA. Through active engagement with all projects, the Genomics Advisor will provide strategic recommendations to facilitate necessary project goals and structures, in order to support project implementation into clinical settings. This position will work closely with QGHA Program Manager and the wider Alliance community.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Working closely with the QGHA core team, provide specialised support to develop high priority research initiatives and strategic planning frameworks.
- Strategising and working with key stakeholders to develop a working framework regarding the integration of genomics into clinical practice.
- Identifying issues of greatest relevance and importance to all stakeholders including genomics scientists, clinicians, ethicists, potential patients and the general public.
- Identifying how best to engage, educate and empower all the stakeholders implementing, offering, interpreting or receiving genomics testing.
- Providing advice regarding how QGHA might contribute to educating healthcare providers and the general public in a meaningful, effective manner.
- Liaise with the QGHA core team and the Alliance members, on the development and implementation of strategic plans related to initiate genomic implementation into the health system.
- Providing consultation and advice for all the QGHA projects on translating the outcomes of their studies into clinical practice.
- Incubate, develop, and strategically review collaborative multi-disciplinary research project partnerships.
- Identifying current and emerging areas of importance to the field of genomics and considering how this information could be communicated to individuals who might potentially benefit from these technologies in a balanced, convenient and understandable manner.
- Communicate effectively and respectfully with all Alliance member and the wider community in the interest of good business practice, collaboration and enhancement of QGHA’s values and reputation.
- Participate and provide advice at QGHA meetings, including but not limited to: bi-monthly Operational Program Steering group meeting, governance meeting, research manager’s forum, and other stakeholder engagement events.
- Support the successful delivery of multiple projects with a focus on cross-project activities and public engagement.
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 General Manager, Queensland Genomics Health Alliance.
SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- Postgraduate degree in genetics/genomics or equivalent qualification and combination of relevant knowledge and experience; relevant qualifications or equivalent proven experience in health, clinical settings, and engagement with patient community.
- Experience in clinical and/or basic science research with a publication history in genetics.
- Experience and awareness of current clinical and ethical issues in genetics/genomics; Experience in genetic counselling and/or nursing within the field of genetics and/or diagnostic genomics are beneficial.
- Highly developed planning and organisational skills.
- High-level writing skills with experience in drafting strategic papers and recommendations.
- Ability to develop, implement and lead innovative solutions within a business context.
- Demonstrated leadership ability in addition to working effectively as a member of a team.
- Demonstrated ability to manage own workload and apply knowledge and experience to solve problems independently.
- Highly developed communication skills including ability to negotiate and liaise with stakeholders at all levels.
- Ability to proactively identify opportunities for strategic partnerships.
- Demonstrated high level of proficiency in the use of a range of software applications including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, or similar applications.
- Government-funded project management experience in a University or tertiary environment, or clinical/health setting.

The University of Queensland values diversity and social inclusion.

Employment opportunities are not limited by race, ethnicity, religion, disability, age, sexuality, gender or other protected attributes. Applications are encouraged from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. For further information please contact our Indigenous Employment Coordinator at: atsi_recruitment@uq.edu.au