POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Small Animal Internship
Organisation Unit: School of Veterinary Science
Type of Employment: Full Time, Fixed Term for 1 Year
Classification: Clinical Academic Level A
Location: Gatton

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 (45), the US News Best Global Universities Rankings (52), QS World University Rankings (51), 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 secured a greater share of Australian Research Council grants in 2016 ($24.5 million) than any other university nationally.

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://uniquest.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 School of Veterinary Science has a rich history, having been founded in 1936, and with a reputation for graduating highly capable veterinarians. The Veterinary Science program at UQ has full accreditation with the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council, the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and the American Veterinary Medical Association. The School also contributes to programs in veterinary technology and animal & veterinary bioscience. The respected QS World Rankings recently ranked UQ as 22nd in the world in the field of Veterinary Science.

The School of Veterinary Science has high quality facilities at the UQ Gatton Campus, providing the teaching, research and clinical infrastructure and resources to further develop its strong reputation as a leading provider of veterinary training, research and clinical care. The Veterinary Teaching Hospital is an organisational unit within the School that includes all of the School’s clinical facilities; the equine and small animal hospitals at Gatton, the Clinical Studies Centre at Gatton, and a small animal hospital & large animal clinic at Dayboro (northwest of Brisbane).

UQ VETS Equine Specialist Hospital has a strong caseload that is largely referral based with some primary accession cases. Facilities include orthopedic, soft tissue and standing surgery operating theatres; advanced diagnostic equipment (digital radiography, computed tomography (CT), nuclear scintigraphy, and echocardiography), high speed treadmill, intensive care unit (including dedicated foal ICU) and dedicated isolation unit. The hospital offers a 24 hour emergency medical and surgical service. UQ BVSc students spend a month rotating through the hospital in their final year.

UQ VETS Small Animal Hospital boasts the latest in veterinary medical and surgical diagnostic and treatment options which underlie the School of Veterinary Sciences’ commitment to providing high quality, compassionate care to meet the needs of the patient, client, referring veterinarian and clinical year veterinary students. The Small Animal Hospital provides a 24 hour Emergency and Critical Care service.

UQ VETS Dayboro is one of the few truly mixed practices within easy commuting distance of Brisbane. This new facility was opened in 2013, with upgrade of the small animal facilities to hospital status, improved large animal outpatient facilities, and accommodation for nine students. Situated 45 minutes north of Brisbane, the area hosts both commercial and hobby farmers offering a mix of 50/50 small and large animals. The large animal component consists of horses, dairy and beef cattle and a growing number of camelds. Large animal veterinary work is performed mostly on-farm but there also outpatient facilities available at the practice.

The UQ VETS Clinical Studies Centre facilitates and provides support to pre-clinical and clinical training in companion animals as well as a renowned research hub for clinical and behavioural research. The Centre includes a 16 – table surgical teaching facility, and is also used for veterinary continuing education events. The Clinical Studies Centre is also home to the School’s Pets-for-Life Adoption Program.

UQ staff also supervise clinical placements at the RSPCA's Brisbane Animal Care Campus, Wacol.
DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

The position will work primarily within the UQ Veterinary Medical Centre, Gatton. This hospital provides veterinary clinical services for external clients and has a strong involvement in clinical teaching. Work is with companion animals including avian and exotic species.

The intern will have responsibility for the management of primary, emergency, referral medicine, surgical and avian and exotic cases, including diagnostic work ups and treatments. The emphasis is on training by doing, with ample opportunity to consult with senior staff informally and during the regular rounds and tutorial sessions. As experience is gained, the intern will take on a greater level of responsibility. Interns are also expected to participate in rounds with the undergraduate students.

Duties

In this role, the intern will help to perform a broad range of clinical services and will work in a combined clinical, teaching and research environment. This position will also assist in the training of undergraduate and postgraduate students through demonstration and practical instruction.

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Clinical Work and Procedures

- With guidance and supervision by senior staff, diagnose and treat primary cases submitted to the veterinary teaching hospital during both regular hours and after-hours, including some weekends and public holidays.
- Assist in the management of referral medicine and surgical cases.
- Assist with anaesthesia and critical care of small animal patients.
- Be familiar with the day to day procedures used in the running of the hospital and ensure the up-to-date keeping of clinical records.
- Practice with an acceptable level of competence in clinical medicine.
- Assist with tutoring and demonstrating in tutorials and rounds for the undergraduate veterinary science students.
- Participate in regular seminars and training sessions in medicine, and where opportunity allows; attend in-service training sessions as provided from time to time by professional bodies outside the veterinary school.
- Liaise with outside clientele which includes the veterinary profession and members of the general public.
- Maintain and promote cordial and harmonious relations in the workplace.
- To perform other duties as directed by the Intern Supervisor.

Scholarship

- Participate in clinical investigations carried out in the School.
- Contribute to the preparation of case reports for publication and presentation to an audience of peers.
- Other duties as directed by the Business Manager and Hospital Executive staff.
- Comply with the University’s Code of Conduct (see the University’s web site at http://www.uq.edu.au/hupp/?page=24987).
- Comply with requirements of Queensland occupational health and safety (OH&S) legislation and related OH&S responsibilities and procedures developed by the University or School. (See the University’s web site at http://www.uq.edu.au/ohs/index.html?page=133956).
- Adopt sustainable practices in all work activities and comply with associated legislation and related sustainability responsibilities and procedures developed by the University (see the University's web site at http://www.uq.edu.au/sustainability/responsibilities).

Organisational Relationships

The position reports to the UQ Veterinary Medical Centre Intern Supervisor
SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- BVSc, DVM or equivalent registrable in Queensland.
- Current Radiation Use Licence issued by the Queensland Government
- Some experience and demonstrated genuine interest in Small Animal clinical practice or for new graduates, strong small animal clinical skills.
- A demonstrated ability to work effectively as part of a team.
- Effective interpersonal and communication skills, both written and oral.
- Ability to offer high quality client service.
- Ability to contribute to undergraduate teaching.
- The successful applicant should be able to demonstrate genuine interest in the discipline.
- High level organisational skills.
- An understanding and knowledge of veterinary health and safety requirements.
- An outstanding work ethic and commitment to Small Animal veterinary practice.
- Ability to work cooperatively with hospital staff, peers and senior personnel.
- High level inter-personal and communication skills including verbal and written skills.
- Attention to detail.
- A responsible attitude to thorough and timely completion of case management.

The University of Queensland values diversity and inclusion.

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