POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Casual Senior Research Technician (Speech Pathologists) / Casual Research Assistant (Speech Pathologists)
Organisation Unit: School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Position Number: NEW
Type of Employment: Casual Research Professional
Classification: HEW Level 5/6

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://university.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.

**Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences**

The Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences is a strong faculty that has a coherent focus on health and well-being underpinned by a clear integrative theme related to preventative health and behaviour change. Furthermore, the Faculty provides the opportunity for the non-medical health sciences to have a stronger voice and greater visibility within the University.

The Faculty currently includes six schools and three research centres:

- School of Dentistry
- School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
- School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences
- School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work
- School of Pharmacy
- School of Psychology
- Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research
- RECOVER Injury Research Centre
- Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences

More information about the Faculty is available at [http://habs.uq.edu.au/](http://habs.uq.edu.au/).

**School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences**

The School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences was established in 1994. The constituent disciplines of the School are Audiology, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, and Speech Pathology. Undergraduate programs are available in Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Speech Pathology with graduate entry programs available in all disciplines. Each discipline also offers a number of postgraduate coursework and higher degree research programs. Each of the undergraduate degree programs is of four years’ duration and includes both preclinical and clinical study offered in an integrated way. Except for the Audiology Program, the graduate entry programs are accelerated two-year programs, inclusive of summer semesters.

Considerable emphasis is placed within the educational programs on problem solving and diagnostic decision-making and students are guided in the processes of systematic and holistic assessment and the selection and effective implementation of management approaches. Each discipline prepares students to operate within the health, education and related systems and to contribute meaningfully to team efforts. Teaching to multidisciplinary groups within the School paves the way for interdisciplinary involvement in client care and interdisciplinary research. Students within each of the four disciplines gain supervised professional experience as part of their academic program and on completion of their degree; graduates are ready for immediate entry to their profession. The School operates client-oriented clinics to support the teaching and research activities of the School and to provide a service to the community.
All disciplines within the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences are active in research and are making significant contributions to the advancement of knowledge in their professions. Students within the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences gain supervised professional experience as part of their academic program and on completion of their degree, graduates are ready for immediate entry to their profession.

The UQ Health and Rehabilitation Clinics provide:

Comprehensive clinical services in:
- Audiology
- Occupational Therapy
- Physiotherapy
- Speech Pathology

Research
- Conduct clinical and educational research
- Implementation of research findings

Education
- Clinical education for undergraduate, graduate entry and postgraduate students of the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (SHRS) and the Faculty of Health Sciences
- Continuing education for professional practitioner and educators

Further details about the School and its activities may be accessed on the School’s web site at http://www.shrs.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

DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

The primary purpose of the Casual Speech Pathology Research Assistants is to contribute to the evaluation of the Aphasia LIFT program evaluation in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Duties

Duties and responsibilities may include, but are not limited to:

**Research Assistance**

- Provide individual (impairment and/or functional), group or computer aphasia therapy three days per week for up to 4 hours per day for 8 weeks to a LIFT cohort at a hospital, university or community venue in South East Queensland.
- Plan, organise and deliver the 8 week LIFT program at various intervals over the next 18 months.
- Contribute to the written therapy manual for the LIFT program.
- Participate in the fidelity (quality) checks of the LIFT program.
- Assess participants on a range of language and communication measures in their own homes or at a location chosen by them.
- Collate and enter data as required.
- Assist with the recruitment of participants with aphasia to the trial.
- Conform with all procedures of the research protocol.

**Community Service**

- Foster the LIFT project’s relationship with industry, government departments, professional bodies and the wider community.

**Administration**

- Perform administrative functions as required Provide feedback to inform the processes that enable the research team to manage the project.

**Travel and Out of Hours Work**

- The position is based at St Lucia but there is likely to be frequent work off campus.

**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

This position reports to Professor Linda Worrall, Chief Investigator, NHMRC LIFT project, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- Completion of a degree in Speech Pathology without subsequent relevant work experience or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training (HEW 5)
- Completion of a degree in Speech Pathology with subsequent relevant experience or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training (HEW 6)
- Eligible for membership of Speech Pathology Australia.
- Be eligible for a Medicare Provider number and possess a valid driver’s license.
- Demonstrate recency of practice with advanced knowledge and ability to deliver evidence based clinical practice in the area of aphasia therapy.
- Demonstrate abilities as an effective therapist and communicator across the field of Speech Pathology.
- Ability to identify, implement and evaluate innovative methods of aphasia assessment and therapy.
- Ability to establish effective relationships and to represent and promote the Aphasia LIFT program at an interprofessional, university and wider community level.
- Ability to work effectively with technology systems and master software applications.
- Ability to collaborate with colleagues with high levels of initiative and autonomy.
- High level interpersonal, oral and written communication skills.
- Ability to prioritise, multi-task and manage time effectively.

Desirable

- Experience in research processes including through postgraduate qualifications.
- Experience in clinical trial research processes.

The University of Queensland is committed to equity, diversity and inclusion.