POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Organisation Unit: School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences
Position Number: 3033388
Type of Employment: Full time, Fixed Term, 2 years
Classification: Academic Research Level A

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 (65). 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 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 five research centres:
- School of Dentistry
- School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
- School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences
- School of Nursing and Midwifery and Social Work
- School of Psychology
- Centre for the Business and Economics of Health
- Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research
- Recover Injury Research Centre
- Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences
- Poche Centre for Indigenous Health

School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences (HMNS)

The School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences’ vision is be an international leader in the study of human movement and nutrition, demonstrating excellence through innovative, creative, and dynamic teaching and research, in a vibrant, interdisciplinary, and engaging environment. The School holds a leadership position in its field in the Australian tertiary environment and is highly regarded for its teaching, research and community outreach programs. The current staff profile shows 47 FTE academic staff, 11 FTE research staff and 21 professional staff. There are approximately 140 enrolled research higher degree students, and the total EFTSL of all enrolled students at undergraduate and postgraduate levels is approximately 950.

The School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences operates through a committee structure with delegated responsibilities and regular meeting times. The School Executive Committee has as its function to provide advice to the Head of School on matters related to strategic planning and resource allocation (including overall budgeting, resource allocation for equipment & facilities, and workload profiling & duties allocations). Membership consists of the Head of School, professorial staff, School Manager and the directors of the major School committees: Teaching & Learning Committee and Research Committee and the Postgraduate Student Coordinator. Other committees which meet less frequently include the Information Technology Committee, the Workplace Health and Safety Committee and the Equity Committee.

The School offers three undergraduate degrees: the Bachelor of Exercise and Sport Sciences (Hons), Bachelor of Health, Sport and Physical Education (Hons) and a Bachelor of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences with a “pathway degree” from the Bachelor of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences to the Master of Dietetics Studies. The School also contributes into the Bachelor of Arts (Sports Studies), and a joint honours program in Sports and Exercise
Psychology through the Bachelor of Arts. The School offers a wide suite of postgraduate coursework programs in the areas of Clinical Exercise Physiology, Dietetics, Sports Coaching, Sports Medicine, and Sport and Exercise Psychology. Further details about the School’s teaching programs, the research interests of academic staff, and other information about the School may be accessed on the School’s web site at http://www.hms.uq.edu.au.

The School currently has four established research centres:

- Centre for Research on Exercise, Physical Activity and Health,
- Centre for Sensorimotor Performance,
- Australian Centre of Sport, Physical and Health Education Research, and
- Centre for Dietetics Research.

The School encourages staff to work across research centres, to facilitate cross-fertilisation of theories and methods, and to form close affiliations with colleagues and projects within the faculty and across the University. The School’s operations include over $23 million in operating grant funding and $2.5 million in research grants and service income.

More information about the Faculty is available at: http://habs.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

The University of Queensland Enterprise Agreement outlines the position classification standards for Levels A to E.

DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

To work with Human Movement and Nutrition Science staff to develop research of international standing in the areas of biomechanics and more broadly sensorimotor performance. Supervision of honours and research high degree students in the broad sense of ‘sensorimotor motor performance’ is required.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Research

- Undertake research projects aligned with the goals of an Australian Research Council Linkage Grant examining the role of intrinsic foot muscles in controlling foot mechanics
- Work with colleagues and postgraduates in the development of joint research projects related to human muscle function and more broadly sensorimotor performance
- Develop a coherent research program that includes conducting research, publishing scholarly papers in high quality outlets and disseminate research to both the scientific community and the general public and industry partners, that build upon the research
strengths and strategic directions of the School’s Centre for Sensorimotor Performance

• Participate in applications for external research funding support
• Some involvement in Honours and (where appropriate) Higher Degree by Research supervision may be expected.

Service and Engagement

• Perform a range of administrative functions in the School
• Contribute to the processes that enable the academic team to manage the work of the School, including participate in School decision-making and serve on School committees
• Foster the School’s relations with industry, government departments, professional bodies and the wider community.
• 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 Dr Luke Kelly, NHMRC Early Career Fellow, School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences.
SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential
- PhD in the area of biomechanics, or evidence of near completion of PhD studies.
- Demonstrated expert knowledge in the area of human biomechanics, with experience using either 3D motion analysis, musculoskeletal modelling and electromyography.
- Evidence of a contribution to research, including publications in peer reviewed journals.
- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues.
- Excellent written and oral skills
- Ability to prioritise own workload, exercise independent judgement and work independently to meet project deadlines

Desirable
- Experience in computer programming in Matlab, Python or other computer language.
- Experience in the area of foot biomechanics
- Evidence of capacity to work with human research participants
- Strong analytical and/or statistical skills
- Research and teaching interests that complement those of other staff members [see www.hmns.uq.edu.au/ for a listing of current staff research interests], particularly those in dietetics and the exercise sciences.

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

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.

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

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