

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Organisation Unit:	School of Biological Sciences
Position Number:	TBC
Type of Employment:	Full Time, Fixed Term for 3 years
Classification:	Research Academic 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 CWTS Leiden Ranking (32), the Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities (43), the US News Best Global Universities Rankings (42), QS World University Rankings (48), Academic Ranking of World Universities (55), and the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (69). Excluding the award component, UQ is now ranked 45th in the world in the ARWU, and is one of the only two Australian universities to be included in the global top 50.

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 52,000-plus strong student community includes more than 16,400 postgraduate scholars and more than 15,400 international students from 135 countries, adding to its proud 250,000-plus alumni. The University has more than 6,600 academic and professional staff (full-time equivalent) and a \$1.75 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://uniquet.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.

Organisational Environment

The **School of Biological Sciences** is part of the Faculty of Science and is one of the largest and most successful of its type in Australia, with 49 full-time academic staff, and over 200 enrolled PhD students. The School has broad expertise across ecology and evolution, molecular and quantitative genetics, paleobiology, developmental biology, behaviour, plant and animal physiology, and conservation biology. Our research programs involve a diverse array of taxa, ranging across microbes, animals and plants, including a particular focus in the areas of marine biology and entomology. Unique opportunities for biological research and teaching are provided by our proximity to a stunning array of marine and terrestrial subtropical habitats and their endemic biodiversity. A number of research programs in the School take advantage of major model-organism systems, including *Drosophila*, *C. elegans*, and *Arabidopsis*, and many include a strong quantitative and modelling focus.

Further information and details of the research interests of academic staff may be accessed on the school's web site at <http://www.biology.uq.edu.au>

Diversity and Inclusion

The School recognizes and values equity and diversity, and encourages applications from any individual who meets the requirements of this position irrespective of gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, religion, disability, age or other protected attributes. The School strives to provide an inclusive working environment, and along with the University is committed to supporting staff with family and caring responsibilities by providing policies, programs and initiatives to help balance work and family responsibilities.

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 engage as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in evolutionary genetics and evolutionary agriculture to further transdisciplinary research on the evolution of complex adaptations and their consequences for the origin of forms. The postdoc will assist Associate Professor Daniel Ortiz-Barrientos' projects HIA 023484 (Horticulture Innovation Australia), FT200100169 (ARC Future Fellowship), and CE200100015 (ARC Centre of Excellence).

Applicants should also refer to the [UQ Academic Criteria for Performance policy](#). This policy applies to staff at levels A to E, across all of the academic categories - Teaching and Research, Teaching Focused, Research Focused and Clinical Academic.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Research

- Undertake research on the genetic basis of adaptation and speciation in plants
- Design and conduct reciprocal transplant experiments in coastal environments
- Design and conduct experiments on the physiological basis of tropisms in plants
- Build on research expertise in quantitative genetics with a particular focus on the genetic improvement of horticultural tree crops
- Conduct research and publish scholarly papers in high quality outlets
- Contribute to supervision of postgraduate students
- Contribute intellectually to other projects in the group
- Work with colleagues and postgraduates in the development of joint research projects

Teaching and learning

- Teach and supervise at honours and postgraduate level as required

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 Associate Professor Daniel Ortiz-Barrientos, in the School of Biological Sciences.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- PhD in the area of genetics, evolution and ecology
- Demonstrated expert knowledge in the area of population genetics, evolutionary genetics and quantitative genetics in agricultural and natural systems
- Demonstrated expert knowledge on the genetic basis of adaptation and speciation in plants
- Demonstrated knowledge on the use of Next Generation sequencing techniques and their application to association mapping
- Demonstrated experience with the planning, designing and running of large-scale glasshouse and field trials
- Experience with studies on the genetics of growth habit and plant size
- Experience in using linear mixed models and genomic selection approaches
- Evidence of effective supervision of Research Higher Degree students
- Ability to train new lab members on laboratory research techniques.
- Well-developed communication skills and the ability to work collaboratively with colleagues from a multidisciplinary background.
- Commitment to upholding the University's values, and with the outstanding personal qualities of openness, respectfulness and integrity.

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.