POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Organisation Unit: Queensland Brain Institute
Position Number: 3049065
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 (40), the US News Best Global Universities Rankings (42), QS World University Rankings (47), Academic Ranking of World Universities (54), and the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (66). 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 53,000-plus strong student community includes more than 16,400 postgraduate scholars and more than 17,000 international students from 135 countries, adding to its proud 260,000-plus alumni. The University has more than 6,600 academic and professional staff (full-time equivalent) and a $2.15 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 $11 billion+.

UQ has a rapidly growing record of attracting philanthropic support for its activities and this will be a strategic focus going forward.

The Queensland Brain Institute

The Queensland Brain Institute (QBI) works to understand the development, organisation and function of the brain. We aim to understand the neural circuits in the brain, how their function results in behavioral outcomes, and how dysfunction of these circuits leads to disorders such as dementia, depression and schizophrenia. We aim to (1) Develop novel therapeutic approaches to treat disorders of neural function and (2) Use our understanding of brain function to improve learning in classrooms and in the workplace.

Established in 2003, QBI is housed on the St Lucia campus of UQ. It is home to more than 450 staff and students, including 41 group leaders.

Over the past decade QBI has become known as one of the world’s leading neuroscience research institutes. It played a key role in contributing to UQ attaining the highest possible score of 5 for neuroscience, in both the 2010, 2012, and 2015 Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) reviews, one of only two universities in Australia to achieve this.

Information about the Institute may be accessed on the Institute’s web site at www.qbi.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

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will focus their efforts on the role DNA structure states in memory. Advanced molecular profiling methodology, gene editing and behavioural paradigms will be employed.

Duties

The duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to

Research

- Develop a coherent research program and an emerging research profile.
• Work with colleagues and postgraduates in the development of joint research projects for competitive research funding support.
• Participate in applications for competitive research funding support.
• Publish or exhibit in high quality outlets (often in collaboration with colleagues).
• Assist in the supervision of Honour student and Higher Degree by Research students (as appropriate) and junior research staff members within the laboratory
• Review and draw upon best practice research methodologies.
• Prepare research publications and progress reports and participate in regular meetings to discuss project objectives, methodology and outcomes.

Service and Engagement
• Begin to develop external links by cultivating relationships with industry, government departments, professional bodies and the wider community.
• Contribute to internal service roles and processes, including participation in decision-making and service on relevant committees.
• Attend lab and Institute meetings and enhance the profile of QBI and the University
• Contribute to safe laboratory working environment
• Perform a range of administrative functions as required.
• 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 Associate Professor Timothy Bredy
SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- Completion or near completion of a PhD in neuroscience, genetics, or related field.
- An emerging profile in research in neuroscience, genetics or related field.
- Evidence of publications in high-ranking peer-reviewed journals and presenting at conferences.
- Evidence of contributions towards successfully obtaining external research funding.
- Excellent communication skills, initiative and problem-solving skills.
- Ability to work independently and creatively and the ability to work collaboratively with colleagues.
- Awareness of laboratory safety, occupational health and safety protocols.
- Some experience in meaningful internal service roles and contributions towards external activities.

Desirable

- Experience with mice.
- Ability to assist with supervision and training of junior researchers.

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 for further information and points of contact if you require additional support.

Accessibility requirements and/or adjustments can be directed to recruitment@uq.edu.au.