POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	Head of Bioinformatics - Computational Biology
Organisation Unit:	QFAB Bioinformatics - Institute for Molecular Bioscience
Position Number:	3022581
Type of Employment:	Full time, fixed term, 2 year
Classification:	RL8/9

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

QFAB Bioinformatics is a leading provider of bioinformatics, biostatistics and biodata services for life science and clinical research. Working closely with researchers, we apply data management, integration, analysis and visualisation techniques to maximise the value of large-scale biological and clinical datasets.

QFAB is part of QCIF, a non-for-profit public company whose members are six Queensland-based universities. This position will be hosted by the Institute for Molecular Bioscience (IMB), which is one of Australia's premier biomedical research Institutes. It houses 32 research groups in the Divisions of Computational Biology and Genomics, Chemical and Structural Biology, Molecular Cell Biology, and Molecular Genetics and Development. The institute's emphasis is on quality research and its translation into medical and biotechnological outcomes.

Details of QFAB services may be accessed on the QFAB website at http://qfab.org and IMB research interests at: http://www.imb.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

As part of QFAB's leadership team, we are seeking an outstanding scientist with significant bioinformatics experience in genomics to head a team which delivers innovative, high-quality and time-driven results for a wide variety of research programs from within universities, research institutes and commercial companies. This position offers an outstanding opportunity to work with leading researchers and contribute to cutting-edge research projects in the biological, environmental and medical sciences.

The position involves gathering research requirements from existing and potential clients, developing with them new proposals and delivering efficient solutions and outcomes that exceed their expectations. In addition to scientific excellence, the position requires demonstrated success in team leadership, project management and customer orientation.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Assist in developing the strategic direction of the organisation
- Lead and define the long term vision of the Computational Biology group
- Act as a scientific leader with corporate & academic clients

- Provide scientific expertise in the design and analysis of genomics projects
- Design and implement approaches to solve complex computational and statistical problems as they relate to interpreting biological data
- Assist with computational analyses and implementing tools for analysing 'omics' datasets
- Develop project evaluations and proposals with clients
- Interface with clients to manage expectations and ensure satisfaction
- Effectively communicate progress and outcomes to clients
- Manage teams and projects to ensure delivery of quality results to clients on time and within budget
- Assist with the development and implementation of plans for staff professional and personal development, ensuring staff retention
- Identify new and emerging bioinformatics technologies and data sources to maintain QFAB at the forefront
- Interact and engage with other external organisations to create alliance for promotion, technology trials and technology development
- Represent QFAB at conventions, seminars and official occasions
- Where appropriate, report research results to the scientific community via papers, presentations or posters

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 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 Dominique Gorse, Director QFAB Bioinformatics.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Qualifications

Essential

- Honours or Masters degree with at least 6 years of experience in the field of bioinformatics/genomics.
- Fundamental knowledge in genomics and other omics technology
- Proficiency in understanding a wide range of biological contexts
- Ability to relate to a wide range of scientific research and medical disciplines
- Knowledge of project management methodologies
- Outstanding record of accomplishments in bioinformatics and biostatistics applied to genomics
- Demonstrated Experience in
    - working with large-scale data from genotyping and next-generation sequencing
    - analysing data from high throughput platforms such as gene expression, methylation microarrays, proteomics and metabolomics
    - managing customer relationships
    - grant writing
    - in leading high performance teams
    - negotiation and problem resolution skills
    - ability to manage multiple research projects
- Strategic thinker and practical implementer including an ability to embrace novel ideas and recognise and capitalise on opportunities
- High level of personal motivation and initiative as well as the ability to work as part of a team
- Demonstrated commitment to
    - client service and continuous improvement
    - commitment to personal and professional development
- Professionalism and integrity

Desirable

- Ph.D. in the field of bioinformatics/genomics.

The University of Queensland values diversity and inclusion.

Applications are particularly encouraged from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. For further information please contact our Australian Indigenous Employment Coordinator at: atsi_recruitment@uq.edu.au
Applications are also encouraged from women.
This role is a full-time position; however flexible working arrangements may be negotiated.