POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Research Specialist
Organisation Unit: UQ Protein Expression Facility
Position Number: TBC
Type of Employment: Full-time, fixed-term
Classification: Hew Level 5 or 6 (Appointment level will be dependent on qualifications, skills and experience)

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://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.

Organisational Environment

The UQ Protein Expression Facility (PEF), a Central Research Platform at UQ, specialises in engineering and producing high quality recombinant proteins for academic and industry researchers. UQ PEF offers comprehensive protein production services using *Escherichia coli*, yeast, baculovirus-insect, mammalian and cell-free expression platforms to tailor for protein-specific uniqueness. Its robust and flexible production platform supports molecular engineering, multi-hosts expression, protein purification and characterisation. UQ PEF has an extensive track record of engagements with researchers across the academia, industry and government sectors, and is internationally recognised for its client-focused approach.

With a dynamic team of research professionals, UQ PEF is renowned for its service and teamwork. Building upon a diverse workforce, UQ PEF values creativity and offers a culture that supports personal growth and continuous learning.

More information about UQ PEF can be accessed through its website at: http://pef.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 role provides recombinant protein production research services to both academia and industry.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

**Research (HEW Level 5)**

- Conduct and support recombinant protein production projects, including molecular engineering, protein expression, purification and protein characterisation
- Perform routine maintenance of laboratory equipment
- Establish and develop effective relationships with facility users
- Train and supervise professional staff and students in recombinant protein production
- Prepare comprehensive reports for the facility director and users
• Maintain accurate and up to date laboratory book records

**Administration (HEW Level 5)**
• Assist with facility enquiries by coordinating with professional staff, preparing correspondences, communications and documents
• Assist with the administrative and financial aspects of facility operation

**Research & Administration (Additional for appointment at HEW Level 6)**
• Lead and expand the capabilities of the facility in the area of protein production
• Manage day-to-day operations and ongoing projects relating to protein production
• Manage resources relating to protein production

**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 the Director of the UQ Protein Expression Facility
SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- Completion of a degree in relevant area; or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training
- Demonstrated proficiency in recombinant protein production using one or more expression host
- Demonstrated proficiency in protein purification and characterisation
- Demonstrated ability in data analysis, record keeping, report writing and presentation of research results
- Excellent organisational skills and ability to prioritise own workload and meet deadlines

Additional for appointment at HEW Level 6

- Completion of a degree in relevant area with subsequent relevant work experience; or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training
- Demonstrated ability to design, execute and manage research projects
- Demonstrated skills and experience in team and project management

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.