POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Senior Research Fellow
Organisation Unit: School of Public Health
Position Number: NEW
Type of Employment: Fixed term, Full Time
Classification: Academic Research Level C

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.

**Faculty of Medicine**

The University of Queensland’s Faculty of Medicine is an internationally recognised provider of world-class education and research. The research-intensive Faculty has a gross budget of almost $300 million, employs approximately 1000 continuing and fixed-term staff (headcount), has a community of more than 4000 non-salaried academic appointees and around 3200 students (headcount).

The Faculty of Medicine offers Australia’s largest medical degree program for graduates and school-leavers. Undergraduate and postgraduate programs are available in the disciplines of Medicine, Health Sciences, E-Health, Mental Health, Biomedical Sciences and Public Health.

The Faculty possesses enormous strengths spanning research, teaching, industry engagement and clinical practice in disciplines ranging from the basic sciences, biomedical research and development, to clinical trials and public health. Research projects within the Faculty have already led to discoveries with far-reaching social and economic impacts, including the revolutionary Gardasil (TM) vaccine for cervical cancer (Professor Ian Frazer) and a drug discovery EMA401 (Professor Maree Smith), a first-in-class oral treatment for chronic pain which through Spinifex Pharmaceuticals led to Australia’s largest biotechnology commercialisation deal. Faculty staff include three highly cited authors, one Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS), three Fellows of the Australian Academy of Science (FAA) and 12 Fellows of the Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (AAHMS). The Faculty is a core member of Brisbane Diamantina Health Partners, the Brisbane-wide academic health science system.

Educational offerings in biomedical sciences, medicine and public health are informed and supported by research activity across a range of fundamental and clinical areas of importance including recognised strengths in cancer, skin diseases, brain and mental health, maternal and child health and genomics. Cutting-edge facilities such as the Herston Imaging Research Facility (HIRF), the UQ Centre for Clinical Research (UQCCR), our laboratories in the Translational Research Institute (TRI) and the new Centre for Children’s Health Research (CCHR) enable outstanding research outcomes and sharpen our understanding of cancer, autoimmunity, mental disorders, infectious diseases and neurological disease. Further details are available at [www.medicine.uq.edu.au](http://www.medicine.uq.edu.au).

**The School of Public Health**

The University of Queensland was, in 1936, the first university in the English-speaking world to establish a Department of Social Medicine. This evolved in the 1950’s to the Department of Preventative and Social Medicine and the School was formally established in 2001 to improve health outcomes through learning, discovery and engagement. The School of Public Health has recently been ranked as the top Public Health school in Australasia in the US News Global university rankings. We are a global leader in improving the health of populations in a changing and inequitable world.
The School’s strategy is centred on academic performance and a commitment to excellence in teaching. We offer programs and courses in all major fields of population and public health to almost 1000 postgraduate and undergraduate students. Our MPH is the only accredited program in the Australasia and S.E. Asia region (APHEA and ASPHER) and one of the few to offer a dual MD/MPH degree. More than 100 research higher degree (PhD and MPhil) students actively contribute to the School’s vibrant research culture while receiving comprehensive preparation for academic careers or leadership roles in public health.

Our research and engagement strategy is focused on making a real impact on some of the world’s most pressing health challenges. Our major research and engagement themes are: health promotion; climate change and environmental health; mental health; blood borne viruses; women’s health; and, health systems.

**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](http://www.uq.edu.au/current-staff/working-at-uq)

The University of Queensland [Enterprise Agreement](http://www.uq.edu.au/current-staff/working-at-uq) outlines the position classification standards for Levels A to E.

**DUTY STATEMENT**

**Primary Purpose of Position**

The Senior Research Fellow will provide oversight of a new NHMRC funded Ideas Grant to trial a precision public health (PPH) approach to eliminate STIs and control locally acquired HIV cases in the Cairns and Hinterland region of far north Queensland (FNQ). The successful candidate will oversee multidisciplinary methods in health services, genomics, collection of data related to social determinants of health and outcomes of STIs and GIS mapping and translate these outputs to implement appropriate interventions in the region. The candidate will be responsible for project design and overall management of all proposed strategies within the study by working closely with the study Investigators. The successful candidate will also ensure the generation of quality datasets essential to achieving study outcomes and will provide leadership throughout the study.

**Duties**

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

**Research**

- Design, plan and oversee all the necessary strategies in the study.
- Manage protocol development, ethics submissions and ensure the study is conducted according to NHMRC and other research guidelines.
- Work closely with a regionally based study coordinator to achieve the study outcomes.
- Maintain continuous stakeholder engagement including progress reports with partner organisations, study investigators and other researchers.
- Develop appropriate data collection and governance requirements.
- Supervise any post graduate or HDR students working on the project
- Prepare articles for publication in peer-reviewed journals.
- Prepare conference material for presentations.
- Any other duties related to the project assigned to you by your supervisor.

**Service and engagement**
- Contribute to the School of Public Health activities including seminars as appropriate
- Foster the School’s relations with industry, government departments, professional bodies and the wider community.
- Any other duties as reasonably expected by your supervisor

**Other**
Ensure you are aware of and comply with legislation and University policy relevant to the duties undertaken, including:
- 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 Professor of Public Health, James Ward, School of Public Health within the Faculty of Medicine.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

*Essential*
- PhD, and extensive experience, in a relevant area of public health, epidemiology or related field.
- Excellent organisational skills and the ability to prioritise own workload and meet deadlines.
- High level communication and inter-personal skills including the ability to establish cooperative working relationships with a range of stakeholders.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- A record of research publication in peer-reviewed journals.
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively as part of a multi-disciplinary team, to use judgment, and take initiative with minimal direction.
• A strong commitment to research and improving outcomes in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health.
• Demonstrated evidence in a developing international profile for research in current field and national recognition.

**Desirable**

• Ability to independently draft scientific peer reviewed manuscripts
• Ability to communicate effectively with funding bodies, scientific peers and study participants in a cross-cultural setting.
• Able to travel when requested, given a reasonable degree of flexibility in timing.
• Knowledge of statistical packages and statistical analyses.
• Ability to work both independently and collaboratively as part of a multi-disciplinary team, to use judgment, and take initiative with minimal direction.

**Qualification Verification**

An appointment to this position is subject to the verification of the highest academic qualification from the conferring institution. [Accessibility requirements and/or adjustments can be directed to Faculty of Medicine HR (Med.HR@uq.edu.au).](#)

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](http://www.uq.edu.au/equity)) for further information and points of contact if you require additional support.