POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Postdoctoral Research Fellow: Synthetic Chemist
Organisation Unit: School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences
Position Number: 3042145
Type of Employment: Full-time, fixed-term
Classification: Academic Research 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://unique.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 Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences is part of the UQ Faculty of Science, and is an international leader in chemical and molecular life sciences teaching, research and research translation.

Our academics teach and research in the disciplines of chemistry, biochemistry, biotechnology, microbiology and parasitology.

The School’s biomolecular research spans small synthetic molecules through to proteins, nucleic acids, viruses and microorganisms, and its materials research encompasses the design and synthesis of molecular devices, functional polymers and nanomaterials.

Many colleagues are widely published internationally and have contributed to significant scientific advances as diverse as organic opto-electronics, safer vaccines and potential treatments for viral infections, ways to combat antimicrobial drug resistance, improved food safety screening, and breast cancer research to allow early detection.

The School’s research and teaching excellence is enabled by world-class facilities and laboratories that house a range of specialist equipment and instrumentation.

For more information, visit the School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences website: scmb.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 main area of research will be the design and synthesis of materials for use in organic and/or hybrid photovoltaic devices. In addition, the materials classes range from small molecules to dendrimers and polymers. The position is funded under the ARENA ACAP program and closely aligned with work programs in earth abundant PV technologies and fundamental understanding of organic solar cells.
Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Research

- Conduct research in the area assigned by the supervisor and publish scholarly papers.
- Work with colleagues and postgraduates in the development and carrying out of research projects.
- Collaborate with ACAP partners and deliver on COPE's commitments to the relevant work packages, including reporting.
- Laboratory supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate students as required.
- Preparation of reports of experimental findings for publications and presentations.
- Participation in activities associated with running the laboratory, such as but not limited to laboratory duty, maintenance of equipment, preparation of risk assessments and maintenance of databases and records.
- Accurately record experiments and experimental results to the standard required by your supervisor.

Service and Engagement

- Attend Centre meetings and others as directed by your supervisor.
- 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 the Director, Centre for Organic Photonics and Electronics.
SELECTION CRITERIA

- Hold a PhD in synthetic organic chemistry with experience in the field of organic semiconductor materials;
- Experience of carrying out organic synthesis, purification and characterisation of organic semiconductor materials using modern methods;
- Ability to demonstrate competence/success, e.g., as judged by publications (or papers in press) in peer reviewed journals;
- Ability to successfully and safely plan, execute, and keep accurate and reliable records of research with minimal supervision;
- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues;
- High-level inter-personal, written and verbal communication, inter-personal and communication skills.

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 (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 ad.