POSİTİON DESCRİPTION

Position Title: Research Assistant
Organisation Unit: Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology
Position Number: 3041174
Type of Employment: Full time, fixed term
Classification: HEW Level 5 or HEW Level 6

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 (43), the US News Best Global Universities Rankings (45), QS World University Rankings (48), Academic Ranking of World Universities (55), and the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (69). UQ again topped the nation in the prestigious Nature Index, and our Academic Ranking of World Universities result in the field of Life and Agricultural Sciences is the highest in Australia at 20.

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 240,000-plus alumni. The University has about 7,000 academic and professional staff and a $1.8 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 University of Queensland's Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (AIBN) is a dynamic multi-disciplinary research institute dedicated to developing technology to alleviate societal problems in the areas of health, energy, manufacturing and environmental sustainability. AIBN brings together the skills of more than 450 world-class researchers complimented by an extensive suite of integrated facilities, working at the intersection of biology, chemistry, engineering and computer modelling. With a reputation for delivering translational science, AIBN conducts research at the forefront of emerging technologies, and has developed strong collaborations with leading members of industry, academia and government. AIBN goes beyond basic research to develop the growth of innovative industries for the benefit of the Queensland and Australian economies.

Our people are our greatest asset. We offer collaborative, inclusive work and study places, which are enriched by the significant diversity of our staff, students and community. We genuinely believe that creativity and innovation flourishes in an environment where people feel supported, valued and empowered. Mutual respect, inclusivity and accountability are at the cornerstone of UQ’s culture.

AIBN is committed to supporting the career growth of women researchers and have a number of initiatives to support women in developing and achieving a fulfilling research career at the institute. For more information, please visit our AIBN Women in Science web site at http://www.aibn.uq.edu.au/women.

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

To contribute to the research effort on developing technologies for the production of therapeutic quantities of human pluripotent stem cells and cardiomyocytes.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Perform experiments, collect results and data for publication;
- Maintain cell cultures in monolayer and suspension;
- Learn and perform assays applicable for hPSC pluripotency maintenance and differentiation to cardiomyocytes, depending on research project and as needed;
- Maintain inventory of laboratory supplies and ensuring all laboratory consumables are stocked and equipment is in working condition;
• Interact and work collaboratively within the team to maintain research operations in the laboratory;
• Facilitate day-to-day operations;
• Provision of administrative support to the team;
• Any other duties as reasonably directed by your supervisor.

Additional duties at HEW 6
• Maintain operation of stirred tank bioreactors in absence of lead investigator;
• Assist in the writing and implementation of standard operating procedures;
• Assist in higher level data analysis and scientific reporting to funding bodies.

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 Professor Peter Gray and Dr Andrew Prowse.
SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- Bachelor degree in a relevant area of Science or Bioengineering; or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training;
- Experience and/or training in the relevant areas of cell biology techniques and/or mammalian cell culture;
- Experience in cell characterisation, specifically flow cytometry, immunofluorescence and quantitative PCR;
- Previous experience in a research laboratory environment;
- Time management skills for timely completion of work;
- Organisation and communication skills to assemble and disseminate data;
- Able to work independently as well as collaboratively within the research group;
- Responsible use of laboratory equipment and consumables.

Desirable:

- Experience with tissue culture, specifically human pluripotent stem cells;
- Previous contribution to research publications;
- Proficient in standard computer software packages such as Microsoft Office, Adobe Photoshop or GraphPad Prism for lab documentation, data entry and analysis

For appointment at HEW 6

Meet Essential and Desirable requirements and in addition:

- Bachelor degree in a relevant area of Science or Bioengineering with subsequent relevant experience; or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training;
- Experience with the handling and operation of bioreactors (0.5-3L);
- Significant experience with gene and protein expression studies;
- Experience with data archiving and the development of standard operating procedures
- Working knowledge of polymer chemistry;
- An understanding of principles in bioprocess development.

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 AIBN HR aibnhr@uq.edu.au